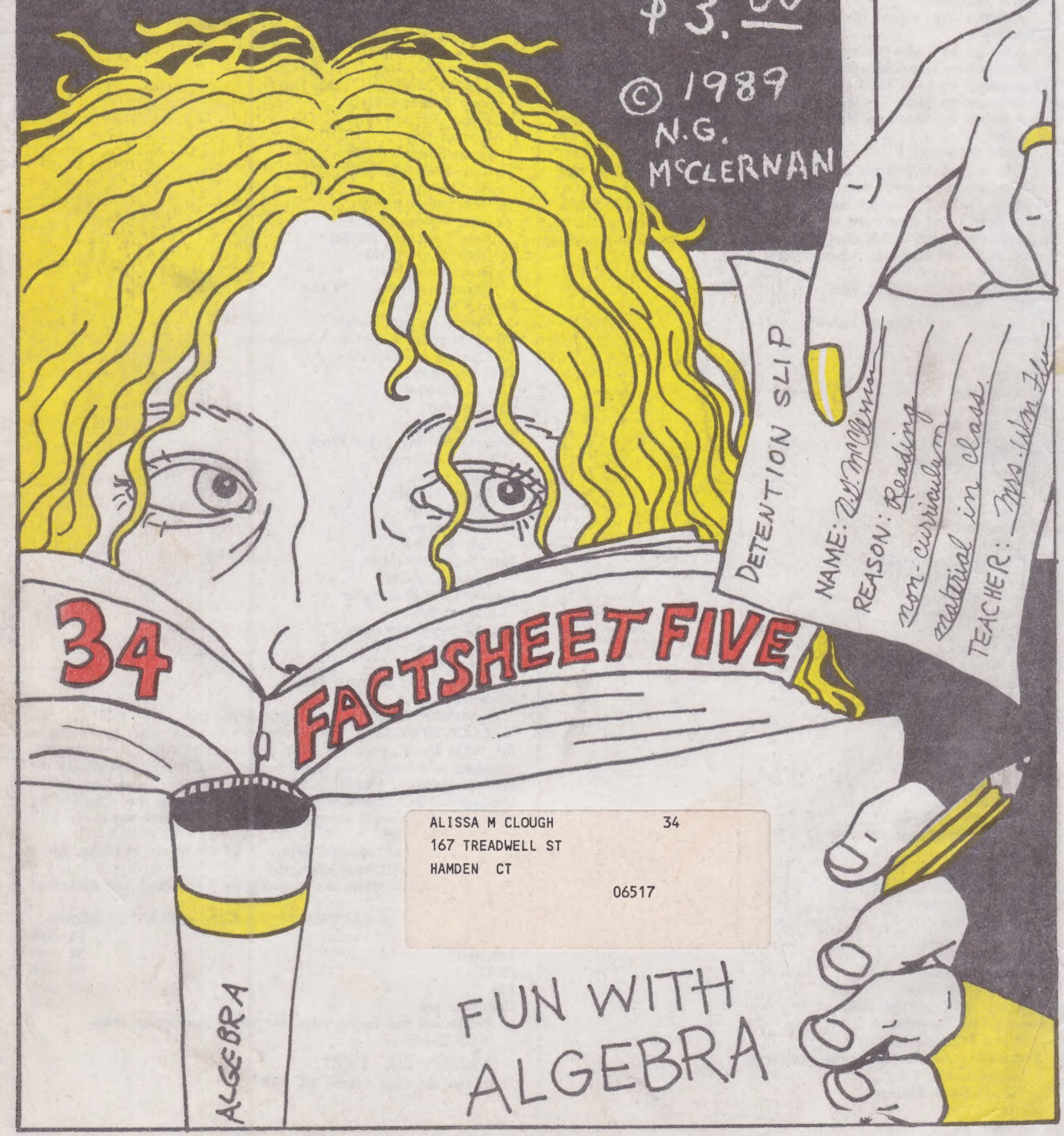
GUNDERLOY
6 ARIZONA AVENUE
RENSSELAER NY 12144-4502

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT NO. 8

$3.00

© 1989
N.G.
McCLERNAN


DETENTION SLIP
NAME: N.G. McClernan
REASON: Reading non-curriculum material in class.
TEACHER: Mrs. Wm. Flw
ALGEBRA

34 FACTSHEET FIVE

ALISSA M CLOUGH 34
167 TREADWELL ST
HAMDEN CT
06517

FUN WITH ALGEBRA

FACTSHEET FIVE is copyright © 1990 by Michael A. Gunderloy. You may freely reprint any of the contents of **FACTSHEET FIVE**, with or without permission, with or without credit, *except* for the following:

"NTSC Cyberbeat" is copyright © 1990 by Belka Stamas.

"Eighties Mail Art Networking" copyright © 1989 by John Held Jr. Used with permission.

Artwork by the Aristotle Group copyright © 1989 by the Aristotle Group.

Artwork by Ace Backwords copyright © 1989 by Ace Backwords.

Artwork by Cathy Buburuz copyright © 1989 by Cathy Buburuz.

Artwork by Carrie copyright © 1987 by Carrie.

Artwork by P. Wayne Henderson copyright © 1989 by P. Wayne Henderson.

Artwork by Gene Mahoney copyright © 1989 by Gene Mahoney.

Artwork by Judy Pokras copyright © 1990 by Judy Pokras.

Artwork by Jason Sadofsky copyright © 1989 by Jason Sadofsky.

Artwork by Joey Shea copyright © 1989 by Joey Shea.

Artwork by Matt Towler copyright © 1990 by Matt Towler.

Artwork by Shannon Wheeler copyright © 1989 by Shannon Wheeler.

ISSN 0890-6823

This magazine was set in Palatino seven and eight point, with twelve, eighteen and twenty-four point Palatino heads, on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II printer, from files produced using Sprint and formatted with Xerox Ventura Publisher version 2.0 enhanced with Soft Kicker, and printed on a Goss Community press at World Printing, Albany, New York.

Founderer Emeritus
St. Michael D. Miller, retd.
Spiritual Advisor
St. Stephen Xavier of Trever
Visual Arts Critic
Anni Ackner
Moving & Shaking
John Held Jr.
Poetry Critic
P.J. Bellomo
Special Guest Reviewers
Andrea Bierwith
D.S. Black
F.C. Gunderloy, Jr.
Geof Huth
Dave Kolasa
Evelyn Lau
Carolyn MacDonald
Sid "Dusty" Miller
Official Curmudgeon
Garry De Young
Fisherman
Joe Lane
Aural Arts Critics
Kevin Byrne
L.J. Cunningham
Karin Falcone
Tom Gogola
Amy Guskin
Ken Johnson
Jay Mentes
R. Miller
Cris Elligott Rowles
Carol Schutzbank
Kyle Silfer
Dina Williams
Experioddica Consultant
Bob Grumman
Staph Trickster
Misha
Videonetworker
Belka Stamas
Official Conspirator
Kerry W. Thornley, KSC
Aural Editor Emeritus
Shane Williams
Contributing Artists (and page numbers)
Andy Amster (54,75,89)
The Aristotle Group (7)
Ace Backwords (67)
Michael Behaviour (67)
Jim Blanchard (39)
Cathy Buburuz (10)
Carrie (23)
Russell Christian (49)
Drain (112)
John Eberly (3,113)
W. Cullen Hart (71)
Wayne Henderson (34,91)
David Lee Ingersoll (11)
Mark Kissinger (80)
Tuli Kupferberg (13,124)
K. Lemming (63,88)
Gene Mahoney (84)
J.P. Morgan (1)
Neal & Mr. Pits (79)
Mark Neville (111)
Larry Oberc (2)
Tommy Hojager Oleson (18)
Judy Pokras (111)
Peggy Ranson (41)
Roman (95)
Jason Sadofsky (92)
Joey Shea (68,85,121)
Ed Stastny (57)
Ken Sutherland (1)
Matt Towler (87)
Kate Tremblay (12,84)
Jason Trent (116)
Barb Warr (114)
Shannon Wheeler (29,120)
Front Cover by
Nancy G. McClernan
Moral Support & General Assistance
Carolyn MacDonald
Paid Scutworker
Cris Rowles
Art Director
Cari Goldberg
Endless Mailing Label Work
Cari Goldberg
Amy Losee
Kathy Manley
Cris Rowles
Official Driver
Gay Kendall
New Age Researcher
Remy Chevalier
Loonie-Tune Researcher
Bag of Water
Official Supernumerary
Mike Gunderloy
Cleaning By
The Friendly Janitors, Inc.
Approved by
Eighteenth Century Communications, Ltd.

FACTSHEET FIVE is published six times a year, appearing in the mails on or about the tenth of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Deadlines for **FACTSHEET FIVE** are the 20th of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Our production schedule is very tight; missing the deadline by even one day almost always guarantees that your work will wait for the next issue.

A glossary of unusual terms used in FF is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Guidelines for artists are available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE** are available as follows:

#1,2,3,4,17.1	$1 each
#18,20-33	$2 each
#5-17	$3 each
#19	$10 each
Complete set	$80

Please see the facing page for new subscription rates.

Next Deadline:

March 20, 1990

(music deadline March 10, 1990)

Factsheet Five

Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3707 (24-hour answering machine, so call anytime); 300/1200/2400 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime you have a computer handy). This is Pretzel Press publication #825 and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 6600 copies. 34th issue, February 1990.

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "34", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "34" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

There are a couple of things that can flank this number. If it's flanked with asterisks (*34*), you've paid for, and should be getting, first class postage. If it's flanked with carets (^34^), then this is a trade copy for which you paid first-class postage, after which you will revert to bulk-mail trade copies. If it's flanked with plus signs (+34+) you're getting a library subscription, including first-class postage, mailing envelopes, and the index.

"!" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you. For more information on terms, send an SASE.

"L" means you're a lifetime subscriber, and will receive every issue of the magazine as long as either it or you is alive. Lifetime subscribers get their copies sent out bulk mail, without extra goodies. If you want extra goodies, you should be a supporting subscriber (see below) instead. Lifetime subscribers may upgrade to supporting status at any time by paying the current difference in rates.

"M" means you sent me music to review. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. **FACTSHEET FIVE** is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review—though of course you're not obligated to publish a review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you publish infrequently, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list.

"R?" means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

"S" means that you are a Supporting Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Supporting subscribers get their issues sent First Class, with the index included. They also get free copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE** publications as they're issued—most recently the **WHY PUBLISH?** booklet. Right now we're up to about 77 Supporting subscribers, but there's always room for one more.

"V" means you sent me a videotape to review. If you require the tape to be returned, one video is good for one issue in trade; if you leave it with me for the archives, one video is worth four issues.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/34") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting FF. *You must get in touch with me at least once every two issues, regardless of the mailing code, to continue getting* FF! This applies to prisoners, artists, traders, everyone!

Send me your zine, drop me a line, do **SOMETHING** so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let me know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, FF is sent *bulk mail.* Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not *too* slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So **PLEASE** get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

Here's the new basic subscription rates:

Regular subscription (anywhere in North America): $3.00 or 8 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $16 or 40 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

First class subscription (U.S. only): $3.75 per issue up to five issues, $21 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Library subscription (includes the index and first class mailing in a protective envelope) (U.S. only): $4.50 per issue up to five issues, $23 for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Air Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $7 or 18 IRCs per issue up to five issues, $38 or 95 IRCs for a six issue (one year) subscription.

Lifetime subscription (anywhere in North America): $75.

Lifetime subscription (outside of North America): $190.

Supporting subscription (anywhere in North America): $125.

Supporting subscription (outside of North America): $330.

I accept for payment cash (U.S. or otherwise), check or money order *drawn in U.S. funds*, unused U.S. stamps or international reply coupons. Please note that I cannot accept checks or money orders drawn in foreign currency. I am, however, happy to accept cash (bank notes) from any country at the official rate of exchange. If you live in a country whose currency does not convert, please write and we'll work out a deal. Those in the Warsaw Pact are encouraged to request a sample copy in exchange for local publications, underground or otherwise.

Unless you specify otherwise, all subscriptions start with the current issue.

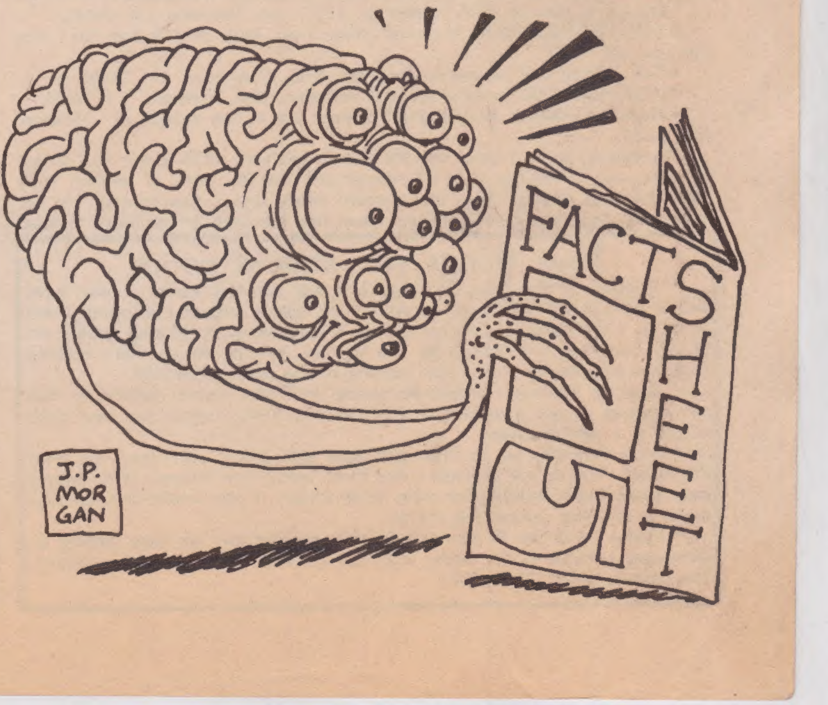
Publishers and others who get their issues without paying may have them delivered first class for $1 per issue. This rate is only valid if you would have received that issue anyhow.

Thanks to An Amazing Food Into Shit Machine, Brian Burch, Les Cammer, Brian Drake, Mark Neville, Jackie Peschock, Mark R. Smith, Noemie Vassilakis and Donna Young for their generous donations towards publishing this issue.

If you want FF sent to a friend, just send me their address and $2, or $2.75 if you're in a hurry. FF makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get FF by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering canned goods, negotiable securities, wind-up sushi, shark's teeth, Magic Rocks, limited edition wallpaper, or other interesting or amusing flotsam from our society.

Thanks to Herbert Ashe, August, Bag of Water, E.J. Barnes, Jon Bekken, Clif Bennet, Mykel Board, Brian Burch, Donald F. Busky, Remy Chevalier, Jeff Copenhagen, Tim Cridland, Paul Di Filippo, Chris Dodge, Jim Downard, Mary Fleener, Gene Guthrie, Linda Hedges, Michael Helsem, Helpers of Planet Earth, Joy Hibbert, Wayne Honath, Brian Horst, Michael S. Horwood, Glen Humphrey, Joe Lane, Steve Lynch, Mike Marinacci, Chris Martin, Sid "Dusty" Miller, Tony Miller, Fred Mills, Walt Noiseux (OK, so Montreal *is* bigger!), Kerry Pearson, Mark Rose, Phil Scalice, Chad Schiffner, Joe Schwind, Thomas Slone, Jack Stevenson, Barbara Tan, Jim Testa, Rosemary West, Martin Morse Wooster and Bud Wooten for sending new and unknown zines for me to review in this issue. Some of you will find that your donations did not get reviewed—this is because I didn't have time, not because I didn't enjoy them. Sorry. Special thanks to Boog Highberger, Jeff Miller and Tony Miller for sending back issues of various zines for the archives, and to Debi Dip for the complete set of **REAL LIFE**; such donations are always appreciated.



NEWS

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

•**COPS HATE POETRY** and other projects of Charles Bernstein are now in PO Box 5008, Evanston, IL 60204-5008.

•**THE DISSIDENT** now resides in PO Box 396, Marbury, MD 20658.

•**Doink Records** has bounced off to 1572 Overton Park #11, Memphis, TN 38112.

•Susan Dorne of **Tischworks** has moved to 551 Park Ave., Windsor, CT 06095.

•**DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES** and David Kopaska-Merkel have floated off to 4801 Cypress Creek Dr. #1004, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405.

•**FOUR-ALARM FIRESIGNAL** has been reincarnated as **FIRESIGNAL**, c/o SPARKS, PO Box 3540, Grand Rapids, MI 49501.

•**INDEPENDENT GLOBALLY** and Eric Vonk are now at Lange Haeg 114, 3853 EJ Ermelo, HOLLAND.

•**KIDS LIB NEWS** and Mycall Sunanda are sunning themselves at PO Box 1064, Kurtistown, HI 96760.

•**Left Bank Distribution** has moved to 4142 Brooklyn NE, Seattle, WA 98105.

•**MALLIFE** and Mike Miskowski are now shopping at PO Box 17686, Phoenix, AZ 85011.

•**METROSPECTIVE** may be seen at PO Box 101, Schererville, IN 46375.

•**MIAMI METROPOLIS** is at 1552-A Euclid Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33139.

•**OUT WEST** and Chuck Woodbury have moved to 10522 Brunswick Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95945.

•**PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER** and Jude Grant are curled up in PO Box 12421, Columbus, OH 43212.

•**ROLLER SPORTS REPORT** and Fred Argoff have skated off to 1800 Ocean Pkwy. #B-12, Brooklyn, NY 11223-3075.

•Daniel Ryan has moved to PO Box 26013, Stn. B, San Francisco, CA 94126.

•**SHANGRI-LA** has moved to PO Box 20662, Seattle, WA 98102.

•**THE STEWART REPORT** and Algernon Stewart now report from 5 W. 8th St. #317, New York, NY 10011-9001.

•**TINA** has moved to PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914.

•**Trauma TV** has moved to PO Box 42405, San Francisco, CA 94142-2405.

•**True Crime Trading Cards** have moved to PO Box 146606, Fullerton Ave., Chicago, IL 60614; the price is now $3 for the first edition.

•Tumult is now at 2336 Market St. #107, San Francisco, CA 94114.

•**TWO-HEADED DOG** and Erik Weems are both at 115 East Ln., Hot Springs, AR 71901.

•P.D. Wilson has moved to 3414 4th Ave., Columbus, GA 31904.

•**WORDBURGER** is now at 1107 Alabama, San Francisco, CA 94101.

•**Xkurzhen Sound** and Michael Jackson are at 216 Adams St., Newton, MA 02158.

Remember, since it costs me 30¢ just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your FF would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection complete, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

Four things you should notice

* Publishers, the Zine Exchange box has run dry again. If you have excess back issues you want to get rid of, please consider shipping them to us for redistribution. For that matter, if anyone is considering getting rid of old fanzines, this would be the perfect way to do so. Isn't making someone else happy better than adding to the nearest landfill?

* Fanzine Editors, I would appreciate it if you would make sure that any reviews or ads you run for **FACTSHEET FIVE** contain the new price of $3 for a sample issue.

* Some fanzines are in their own nice little boxes, and stand out from the crowd. This is not because I like them better, but because their editors have suggested a heading for them to be under. If you would like you zine under a heading, please tell me so.

* Please check the FF zip code in your mailing list; I've been getting an increasing amount to the wrong zip, and the Post Office is getting cranky. The correct zip is 12144-4502.

LOST ADDRESSES

Anybody got a current address for any of these?

•**BLACKWORLD**, a pretty good bi-weekly paper from SUNY-Stony Brook which arrived with no return address.

•**The Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust**

•**FELICITY**

•Prudence Gaelor

•**THE IIIRD I**

•**INTERRUPT NOW**

•Like Rain

•Nun's Worm Press, who sent me a booklet titled **SPOOIE** but no return address.

•**SYSTEM OPPOSED**

•The Winged Monkeys and/or **MEDICI COUCH**

•Ernest Woodall

•**YIPPIE HIPPIE**

By the way, if you've had any correspondents go missing lately, feel free to send their names to be added to this listing.

DEAD ZINES

All of the following have ceased publication in the last few months:

•**THE ACTION LINKAGE NETWORKER** (Action Linkage as an organization is still alive and well).

•**AMERICAN LIBERTARIAN**

•**CHAIRS MISSING**

•**CHEMICAL CASTRATION**

•**CLANDESTINE CLOSET**

•**CRITTERS**

•**DOWN BY THE BOARDWALK**

•**GREEN HELL GAZETTE**

•**MATT LUKINS LEGS**

•**READERS' POLL**

•**SACRED EARTH NEWS**

•**SWEET & SWISHY**

•**USELESS YOUTH**

•**VETERANS' UPDATER**

•**VICTORIAN VAULT**

ERRATA

•**CAMPUS REVIEW** t-shirts are now only available in XL, and are on a 100% cotton beefy-T.

•**CANUCK COMICS**, reviewed in the last issue, proves to be no longer available from the publisher.

•**COMIC UPDATE** was incorrectly listed as **ETHER TELEGRAMS**. Also, the price should have been 50¢, not 560¢.

•The correct Zip Code for **HEADLINES** is 3279993-5094.

•Roger Reus' address was listed incorrectly in the last issue. The correct address is 9412 Huron Ave., Richmond, VA 23294.

T-SHIRTS

•**ASYLUM** magazine (PO Box 6203, Santa Maria, CA 93456) has put out a shirt featuring the distorted, digitized face from their masthead and the words "Commit Yourself / Asylum Magazine". They're in black ink on "straight-jacket white" all-cotton shirts, and available for $10 postpaid.

•**BUSH: "I AM SATAN!"** is the caption on a new shirt from Tom Gogola (180 Washington #706, Albany, NY 12210). Beneath this there's a picture of our president, grinning, with small horns and "666" on his forehead. $10 postpaid in black on a white all-cotton shirt.

•**Give Me A Kiss Drive Me Crazy!** is the caption on a new shirt from Stark Grafixs (PO Box 170381, San Francisco, CA 94117-0381). The graphic is collaged, showing one rather Christlike man being kissed by another, framed by a field of skulls. Black ink on a white 100% cotton shirt.

•**Mutilation Graphics** (3765 Oriole Ct., Shrub Oak, NY 10588) carries a wide line of sleazy shirts: Ted Bundy after death, medical oddities, bondage ads, Sleep Chamber, SRL, Dangerous Visions, and much more. You can get their current catalog for a buck.

•**GOING GAGA** has shirts out with "Mysterious images on both sides and Weird packaging". Mine showed up in a Chinese food take-out container, mailed with a tag attached to the handle. The shirt itself is a 50-50 mix, black on white, with Japanese sign-language and "GAGA" on the back and a small image of a dancer labeled "A Noh Future Think-Tank for Short Attention Spans" on the front. $10 from Gareth Branwyn, 2630 Robert Walker Pl., Arlington, VA 22207.

•If it's not one thing, it's another. Last issue I mentioned that I hadn't seen any of the shirts put out by **LITTLE GREEN MAN** (Gary Turchin, 3776 Manila Ave., Oakland, CA 94609). Now I've got two of the shirts, and they're great, but I can't find my copy of the catalog to tell you what they cost. Anyhow, my favorite is still "I Pink therefore I Ham", featuring a bright pink pig sitting on a stool and pondering on a gray all-cotton shirt. On the other hand, my wife the physicist got a real kick out of "Self Meets Anti-Self" (Dialogue: "Are You Energy?" "Does it Matter"), just a black sketch on a white shirt but funny to the cognoscenti. Look, send Gary half a buck or a buck for his catalog, apologize for my stupidity, and then order some of his shorts.

•**MUTILATION GRAPHICS** (3765 Oriole Ct., Shrub Oak, NY 10588) sent me a whole pile of their shirts, $8 each (plus $2 shipping for the first shirt and 50¢ for each additional shirt) in sizes up to XL (they can special order up to XXXXL), black ink on white 50-50 shirts. A lot of them are publicity from classic b-movies, like the one with the rat captioned "The Rats Are Coming" The Werewolves Are Here!" and with the note in the corner "Win a Live Rat for your Mother-in-Law!" For strong-stomached fans of the bizarre there's the shirt for the band Sleep Chamber, a bondage scene showing a face encased in a leather and chrome mask with tongue about the lick the heel on a super-high-heeld boot. Then there's Big Daddy Roth's classic Rat Fink (yeah, I read those car comics when I was a kid), grinning, sweating and attracting flies and with an amazing leer on his face. This is just a small sample of what's in their catalog, which you can get for a buck. And I'll be mentioning more next issue!

•**NONOXYNOL-9** (PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374) sent me their first shirt. It features a drawing by Val Dray of a succession of women dressed as fashion models walking towards the viewer. What makes it neat is that the drawing is color-separated for 3-D, and comes with a pair of viewing glasses. (Of course, if you want other people to get the full effect, you'll have to run down the street loaning them the glasses, but that's *their* problem). $10 in two colors on a white 50-50 shirt.

•Alyce Wittenstein sent me the shirt for her new film, **NO SUCH THING AS GRAVITY**. It's screened in white on a black 50/50 shirt, and features a sort of angular, pulp sci-fi title, with credits for the leading players. You can get one for $12 from Verge, Inc., 141 W. Broadway, New York, NY 10013.

•**POP LAUNDRY** is the t-shirt arm of **EULIPIAN** magazine. The shirt at hand features a stunning computer graphic, in yellow, green and black on a white all-cotton shirt. It's a face, more or less, captioned "X RAY EYES" in futuristic type". Sure to cause comment among technophobes and technophiles alike. Contact them at PO Box 61387, Seattle, WA 98121.

•**R.C. Brown Cow** is a band on the Airburst label (PO Box 993, Gaithersburg, PA 17201). Their shirt is pretty strange. On the front there's a brown cow, standing in a field of marijuana and mushrooms and munching away. Marijuana legalization slogans float by while a skull labeled "C.A.M.P." lies in the foreground. The back has a skull and crossbones with eyepatch and "RC" in hardcore lettering on its forehead. Sure to provoke the cops and amaze your friends. They come in Large and XL on 50-50 shirts for $10 postpaid.

•**Trinity Square Video** (172 John St., 4th Fl., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1X5) has a really nice new-wavish television shirt, featuring a stylized guy on screen with a camera and wearing a shirt with a TV on it. This would go great for anyone into independent video or community access. $10 will get you one.

•I'm happy to announce that Freddie Baer is continuing the **T-Shirt of the Month Club** into 1990. You need to make a three month commitment for $24 to get on her list. In return, you'll get a new silkscreened shirt each month. The December shirt had a sort of Native American year-end theme. I've been a member since the beginning, and wouldn't dream of dropping out. To contact Freddie, write to her c/o Mystopia, PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151. January's shirt was white ink on a black 100% cotton shirt, showing the pastoral butterfly about to be captured by the industrial fly.

•**We Three Bings** is a record from Vital Music (236 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009) and not surprisingly it's here because they've done a shirt of the cover design. It's screened in black on a bright red 50-50 shirt, and features a photo of three burned-out looking dudes with Santa caps and the caption "Vital Music's N.Y. Trash Xmas Comp." Not the greatest quality pic in the world, but probably of limited availability at best.

ARTIFACTS

•**Absolutely Perfect Productions** (729 Fifth Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118) sells colorful vinyl buttons through the mail. There's a bright yellow happy face captioned "SLIME" ($2), Marilyn Monroe or James Dean heads ($4 each) or a colorful tube of paint marked "I Am an ARTIST—Give Me Money" ($3). They're all pretty slick looking, and well off the beaten path. Shipping is 35¢ each, or you can get the full price list for an SASE. Valerie Walker can also do custom work from drawings or photos.

•**The Cabbagetown Boycott Committee** (c/o Brian Burch, 44B Spruce St., Toronto, ONT, M5A 2H9, CANADA) has a couple of goodies for those of you participating in the grape boycott called by the UFW. One is a bright red "Boycott Grapes" sign, with the stylized eagle insignia, with a suction cup to stick it on your car window. You can get one for $2. The other is a button featuring the eagle superimposed on a maple leaf, surrounded by the words "This Canadian Cares...Boycott U.S. Grapes", which sells for $1. Proceeds from both go to the UFW.

•**Good Medicine "Peyo-Tea"** ($12 from Rosetta, PO Box 4611, Berkeley, CA 94704) "is a sacramental ally composed of traditional Native American herbs" including Sarsaparilla, Echinacea, Burdocl, Prickleyash and several more, but *not* including any peyote. For your twelve bucks, you get enough tea for seven people in a little cloth bag, a pamphlet on the traditional uses of peyote, and a full color Peyote Button (the kind you pin on, not the kind you eat). A portion of the profits is going to further the legal struggles of those who use peyote as a sacrament.

•**The "Ike" Device** ($20 from Veterans Information project, PO Box 662, Hillsborough, NH 03244) is a small stand of a picture of General Eisenhower, with the quote "...people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of their way and let them have it." Pinned to Ike's lapel is a small "No War" button (the word "war" with the international slashed red circle across it), with a $1 price next to it. For your $20 you get thirty of these buttons, so you make $10 profit if they all sell. Or, for $1 and a stamp you can get a single one. I'm wearing mine.

•**MODOM #3** (SASE from Jake Berry, 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): The third in a series of art objects from Jake. This one is a balloon featuring a Mike Miskowski poem and a drawing by Jake. The ink is a bit smeary, but I've never gotten any other balloons, so it's the best thing in its class. Knowing Jake and his attitudes towards experimental art, the most appropriate activity is probably to inflate this until it bursts.

•**NONOXYNOL-9** (PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374) sent some odds and ends. You can get photos of the "Big Six Shrine" (which appears to be a dry cleaners) for a buck, A vial of actual NYC dust from under John Six's bed for $1, or the official (wax?) "Mannequin Ear" for $5. For $1 you can get a glossy print of three nude mannequin photographs, with additions in magic marker to make them sexier. I can't say that any of them have any readily apparent household uses, but who knows what you're into.

•**OLIVER'S REVOLVING SURGERY #1** ($7 from Mr. Breakfast, 103 Wheeler, Toronto, ONT, M4L 3V3, CANADA): This is mainly a zine, but I'm reviewing it here because of the presentation. The magazine is a wild mix of the flat earth, wrestling women, tortures and mass murderers, nasty things done by the government, and lots of strange drawings, scribblings and pictures; the words "How to Go Crazy", within, adequately convey the spirit of the whole. It's packaged with a collage poster, a set of 7 trading cards showing three aliens and a chicken ("all the same so you never have to worry about what card you're missing") and the piece de resistance, an eggplant stuck through with various bits of ironmongery. The latter has the distinction of being perhaps the first thing I've been sent that can't be properly archived (but please don't take this as incitement to send me more vegetables!).

•**A VOICE WITHOUT SIDES #4** ($1.50 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): I would classify this as a self-destructing poem object. There are four extremely short wordplay poems here (how short? 11 words for all four), printed in colorful rubber stamping—on a standard pink eraser. This presents a quandary; to use the object for its intended function, removing unintentional words from the page, will also destroy the intentional words on its surface. My solution is to archive it, thus denying the object's use but preserving its appearance.

SOFTWARE

•I will review IBM-PC compatible software personally, and have reviewers for MacIntosh, Amiga, Apple II, Atari ST and Commodore 64 software, so if you know of any interesting programs for these machines, please put them in touch with FF.

•**AGOG AGO GO** ($3 from Edward Leonardo Jewasinski, 116 Eswyn Rd., Tooting, London SW17, UK): This is an electronic fanzine, edited by Edward and programmed by Andrew Heald. **AGOG** is basically a poetry magazine, but in translation to the screen it picks up some interactive qualities and a new look. I have some minor complaints about the way it works (the b&w text is eyestraining after a while, there is no easy way to page through and see the whole magazine without constantly returning to the index, and mouse support would be nice) but on the whole, it's an impressive package at a reasonable price. The works themselves range from mild erotica through surrealism, with a few short stories and graphics thrown in for good measure. Overall the poets here are challenging without being unnecessarily obtuse. Edward is looking for text files and .PCX graphics for future versions, and promises EGA enhancements at some point. This zine is also available on the FF BBS, at 518-479-3879, for those of you with computers and modems. (IBM)

•**Deep Space** ($6 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #866,867): This is a program for astronomers, or at least folks who want to look at the sky and know what they're seeing. There are really two programs here. The first produces two types of maps showing where the planets are on any given day (out as far as Saturn), making its maps directly on the printer (Epson or IBM graphics compatible). This worked well

ESCAPE
GOAT
John E 5/89

SOFTWARE FOR FREE??!

Well, not exactly free, but certainly one of the greatest bargains in computing. Experience the wonders of "shareware" with computer software that you can try at a nominal price and upgrade at a later time, giving the registration fee directly to the author of that given program. PC-SIG is the world's largest distributor of shareware and public domain software for the IBM compatible. As an international source for quality software, PC-SIG serves its users with virus-free programs, expert technical support, courteous customer service and prompt order processing.

☐ **GALAXY(765)**
Some consider this the swiftest and easiest to use word processor ever! Menu driven, spell check, find and replace features.

☐ **ZOOM RACKS (1287, 1288)**
"Database of the year" says Compute! Magazine. Organize everything for business letters, to inventory, to sales, to collections. Whole businesses are running on ZOOM RACKS alone. Requires 384 K. COUNTS AS 2 DISKS.

☐ **PC-CALC+ (199, 1016, 1017)**
Buttonware's most popular spreadsheet has 16,000 cells, graph making ability and a walk-through tutorial. Hard disk required. COUNTS AS 3 DISKS

☐ **PROCOMM (499)**
The popular telecommunications package for Datastorm Technologies enables you to access computer bulletin boards in a straight-forward manner.

☐ **WILDCAT BBS (745, 746)**
A new bulletin board which even the relatively inexperienced can set up and operate. It supports all the popular file-transfer methods such as XMODEM and YMODEM, among others. COUNTS AS 2 DISKS.

☐ **FLU-SHOT+ (1119)**
Protect your PC's hard disk from viruses, trojan horses and other pests.

☐ **OPINION MASTER SURVEY SYSTEM (1035, 1036)**
Determine people's attitudes or opinions regarding any subject. Creates custom surveys & analyzes the results. Requires 320 K & hard drive. COUNTS AS 2 DISKS.

☐ **EZ-FORMS LITE (1202)**
Design and print your own business forms in minutes. Requires 320K and dot matrix printer.

☐ **FAMILY TREE (1535)**
This program provides a convenient means of collecting and compiling genealogical and biographical information.

☐ **WISDOM OF THE AGES (1498-1501)**
Discover the insightful thoughts and advice of some of the most significant thinkers throughout history. WISDOM OF THE AGES provides a capsulized collection of mankind's wisdom spanning over 2,000 years. COUNTS AS 4 DISKS.

☐ **THE PC-SIG ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SHAREWARE**
Pick up the ultimate guide to the thousands of shareware programs available through the PC-SIG library. Read comprehensive descriptions and reviews of the various applications available, including spreadsheets, word processors, databases, arcade games, educational exercises, graphics tools and programming aids.

☐ **SHAREWARE MAGAZINE**
Keep up with the latest developments of shareware with this bi-monthly magazine designed for the casual user and expert alike. Discover ongoing uses for the programs in this ongoing forum of ideas.

SIGN ME UP! **I want to get the greatest deal in PC computing! I'm sending you some money and this what I want....**

__________Disks @ $6 each = __________
___$1 per disk surcharge for 3 1/2" disks __________
___copy(ies) of THE PC-SIG ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SHAREWARE @ $17.95 __________
___1 Year subscription to SHAREWARE MAGAZINE @ $20.00 __________
___sample copy of SHAREWARE MAGAZINE @ $2.95 (free w/any order) __________
California residents add 7% sales tax __________
Shipping and handling __________
TOTAL __________
Method of Payment: ☐Check/Money order ☐VISA ☐ Mastercard
Card Number______________________ Expiration Date__________
Signature______________________
NAME______________________
ADDRESS______________________
CITY______________ STATE__________ ZIP__________
USA PRICES ONLY

PC-SIG
PC-SIG
1030-D East Duane Avenue, Dept. 2123
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
or Call (800) 245-6717, operator 2123

and quickly, The second is the star-mapping program, which has a database of 18,000 stars and a whole mess of comets. It plots to the screen (CGA required) and can dump to the printer. Versions are supplied for systems with and without a math coprocessor; even the latter ran acceptably fast on a 12 MHz system. Unfortunately, there seems to be a bug in the cursor location routines when using an EGA, which crashed the program whenever I attempted to find out the name of a star or constellation, making this a somewhat less useful feature. The program can also construct stereoscopic views of the sky with user-selectable eye separation. A special viewer is included with the registered version, $59 from the author. (IBM)

•**Fortune Teller** (Evaluation copy $5, registered version $29, from R.K. West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): This program is actually a medley of smaller programs which tell fortunes in a variety of traditional ways. There are a couple of playing-card fortunes, a dice method, and rune-casting, as well as numerological personality analysis. The registered version also includes some ESP testing programs. The program is bombproof and simple, as with others from this company, and the instructions are detailed and straightforward. There's still a few bugs here; most notably, when a die comes up a six, nine spots show on the screen. It would also be nice if the program could sense the speed of the computer it was running on, and adjust accordingly; shuffling cards and rolling dice went by too quickly to appreciate on my 12 MHz system. (IBM)

•**Galaxy** ($3 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #765; author's registration is $59.95): Galaxy is a simple but remarkably full-featured word processor. It has a pull-down menu interface which can be used with either a mouse or function keys, as well as keystroke shortcuts to all its commands. It understands Wordstar commands and files, as well as its own native instructions and ASCII files. The interface is very intuitive, with good on-line help as well as an on-disk menu; you cna be typing in files very shortly after proceeding through the excellent installation program. I only found a few problems, most notably in cursor processing with both an EGA and a mouse installed; the program recovered well from such situations as the attempt to load a file larger than memory.

This is not a program that will do everything the major word processors will. In particular, the size of the files is limited by regular memory, and the printer control is rudimentary. (It supports character formatting and margins, but not multiple-columns and other layout tools). But for sixty bucks, you get all the functionality that you're likely to need when learning to use the computer, in a fast and flexible program. (IBM)

•**GESTUS** Vol. 3 #4 ($25/yr from Brecht Society of America, 59 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901): This "Electronic Journal of Brechtian Studies" comes out without touching the printed page. First it's issued as an electronic newsletter over the computer networks. Then the files are taken, combined with photographs and commentary, and put out as microfiche. I find this pretty exciting, but then, I'm easily excited by technology. The articles are straight ASCII so there's no problem reading them from most any system. As for the contents, they're devoted to the playwright Bertholt Brecht and his works, with a number of interesting critical essays and reviews of current performances.

•**THE PC-SIG LIBRARY** (Fourth Edition & Supplement) ($12.95 for Vol. 1, $8.95 for Supplement, plus $4 s&h from PC-SIG, 1030 E. Duane Ave. #D, Sunnyvale, CA 94086): If you've been intrigued by the reviews of shareware distributed by PC-SIG, this is the next logical step to take. It's the directory of everything they offer (well, the first 1124 disks, anyhow), with notes on what the programs do and what hardware they require, together with reviews and notes from users. The books are well-organized and indexed a couple of different ways. A reasonably cheap way to get the dope on a lot of software packages, some very professional, some not. (423 pp. tpb & 226 pp. tpb)

•**PBW #7** ($2 from Dick Freeman, 130 W. Limestone, Yellow Springs, OH 45387): A Mac environment computer zine that contains poems, stories, opinion pieces, and reviews of various Western past-times. All documents in this issue were produced in MacWrite but could be opened by the MSW 4.0 document converter. Graphics were a problem to convert the last time, and this time there weren't any, but they're still on my wish list.

This issue is a hodgepodge, suitable only for untiring eyes. Betty Huck offers informal reviews of some LA plays. On the porn scene there were blue reviews—which, incidentally, indicate VHS blue tapes are receiving some systematic vandalism; in addition, a separate piece mentioned this hot marketing idea of "porn soaps on cable" (i bet it'll happen). Then there's the Pro Wrestling Report & poems by Oberc, et al. Finally, I have to mention what appears to be the 1st installment of a story by Norma Lee Edwards. Years ago there was this Cuban refugee cab driver named Froggie O'Toole...if you're even the slightest bit of a romantic you'll be begging for the next issue. (Mac/538k)(Reviews by pj bellomo)

•**Public Software Library** (PO Box 35705, Houston, TX 77235-5705) is a source for shareware, as well as for discounted computer hardware and non-shareware software. They're especially strong in software directed at programmers. You can get their latest newsletter/catalog for $2.

•**Sage: The Past Life** ($3 from PC-SIG, 1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #1486; author's registration $10): The basic premise of this shareware program is simple: it leads the user through a series of guided visualizations meant to conjure up images of past lives. Unfrotunately, the execution is deeply flawed, with words misspelled even on the opening registration screen and color combinations designed to cause eyestrain after moments. But the root problem is that it's difficult to close your eyes and do a guided meditation when you have to keep opening them up to read the next set of instructions on the computer screen. As an example of New Age software, this may be the tip of an iceberg, but the slight novelty doesn't justify putting up with its flaws. (IBM)

•**TEX files for MS-DOS** are distributed by Jon Radel, PO Box 2276, Reston, VA 22090-0276. TEX is a respected typesetting system for which the source code is public domain; hence, people have ported it to PCs along with a variety of supporting programs. To find out what's out there, send Jon a #10 SASE with 45¢ postage on it.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

•**Sacred Art of the SubGenius** is the title of an art exhibit running from January 10 through April 10, 1990 at Psychedelic Solution Gallery (33 W. 8th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011). Call 212-529-2462 for more details; the gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 8 PM.

•**The Third Wave of Feminism: A Candidly Revolutionary Approach**, the Radical Women's 23rd Anniversary Conference, will be held Feb. 17-20, 1990, at the BayView Plaza Holiday Inn in Santa Monica, California. For information phone (415)-864-1278.

•**SXSW'90**, the annual south by southwest new music festival, is being held March 14-18 in the Hyatt Regency Austin. Registration is $75; for more information write PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765 or call (512)-477-7979.

•**The International Primate Protection League** is planning an annual members' meeting, with the first one to be held March 23-25, 1990. For more information, contact the IPPL at PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484.

•**The American Peace Test** (PO Box 26725, Las Vegas, NV 89126) is planning a 5-day sustained action at the Nevada Test Site March 29 through April 2, 1990.

•**The Grove St. Gallery** (100 Grove St., Third Floor, Worcester, MA 01609) is planning a comic book & fanzine art show for some time in Spring 1990. They're looking for submissions now; send SASE for more information.

•The annual **Kenneth Patchen Festival** will be April 27-29 at the Trumbull Art Gallery, 720 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren, OH 44482; phone (216)-395-4876. Bern Porter is among the participants this year.

•**DECALcoMANIA**, the club for collectors of radio tapes and promotions, is planning a convention in Southern California in April or May 1990. For more information send an SASE to Dale L. Andrus, 1425 Cherry Ave. #155, Beaumont, CA 92223.

•**CORFLU 7** is the convention for science fiction fanzine fans, being held in New York City on May 4-6, 1990. Registration is $35 for an attending membership or $5 for a supporting membership, from Lise Eisenberg, 99 Joralemon St. #6D, Brooklyn, NY 11201, who is also the person to write for more information. I'll be there, assuming my schedule allows it.

•**National Flag Desecration Day** has been announced for June 15 (the day after Flag Day). This is a date to protest recent laws making this a crime, called by the National Flag Desecration Network. For more information send a large SASE to Angus T. McWhorter, 1010 Thoreau Ct., St. Louis, MO 63146; please do not mention flags or the Network on the envelope.

•**CONCEPT** is a musician's festival held in Canada the week of July 1-7. For more information, contact Peter Riden, 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, laval, Montreal, H7T 2E3, CANADA.

•A **Conference on Biostasis & Reentry** is being held at Asilomar (a conference center in California) August 24-26, 1990. This will include both technical sessions and political discussions for advocates of cryonics. Prices for the weekend start at $135. Contact Lifepact, PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706; (916)-577-4746 for more information.

•A national **Lesbian Conference** will take place April 24-28, 1991. The national planning office may be reached at PO Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203 or call (518)-463-1051; the conference itself will take place in Atlanta.

•**The North American Support-In** will take place May 11-15, 1990. This is a national action, centered in New York City, of opposition to the psychiatric establishment and a promotion of alternatives. The East Coast contact is Janet Foner, 920 Brandt Ave., New Cumberland, PA 17070, (717)-774-6465; on the West Coast contact David Oaks, PO Box 11284, Eugene, OR 97440, (503)-341-0100.

•If you're interested in a pagan events, you should subscribe to Larry Cornett's calendar of festivals, gatherings, and so on. $4 per year from 9527 Blake Ln. #102, Fairfax, VA 22031.

MAIL ART

•**The A.1. Waste Paper Co. Ltd.** (71, Lambeth Walk, London SE11, ENGLAND) sent me their **Christmas Catalogue 1989**, a lovely little micro-mini of collaged consumer items which make little or no sense, thanks to their fractured ad copy. They'll trade for your own bizarre mail productions.

•**August** (PO Box 300, Mt. Bethel, PA 18343) is interested in exchanging bits of handmade mail art, with a stress on "absurdity".

•**Brainstem** is a mail art project being assembled by Cerebral Shorts (5/143 Glenhuntly Road, Elwood 3184, AUSTRALIA). TO participate, send 100 copies of some artistic work on a single sheet of letter-sized paper. When contributions are acquired from 100 artists, each will get a set back in the mail. The deadline is February 29, so you have to hurry to be included.

STUPID? HIGH INTELLIGENCE COUPLED ONTO ABILITY TO LEARN ONLY SLOWLY. EXAMPLE: ONLY A ZIP IS REQUIRED; CITY & STATE CONFUSES. HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE YOU TO LEARN THAT? FRANK, 61 S. JULIAN #S 80219

•**Children** is the theme of a mail art project being run by Achim Weigelt, Listerstr. 20, 4800 Bielefeld 14, WEST GERMANY. Size and material free, documentation to all participants.

•**Ecstasy Productions** (GPO Box 4644 TT, Melbourne 3001, AUSTRALIA) is a "new correspondence arts & prose magazine" looking for postcard sized graphics. Submit with SASE for reply.

•**FaGaGaGa** (PO Box 1382, Youngstown, OH 44501) is accepting "art, criticism, opinion & ranks on postmodernism".

•**GM Artists** (PO Box 300006, Minneapolis, MN 55403) want to collect 8 1/2 x 11 mail art from gay artists for an open quarterly international show. Documentation free to all participants.

•**Oronzo Liuzzi** (Via Mercato 20, 70033 Corato(BA), ITALY) sent me a card with lots of hand coloring and some silver ink on it. Real pretty, but enigmatic.

•**Man & High Tech** is the announced theme of a visual poetry show being assembled by Dino Gobbo, Via Treviso 44, 31057 Silea, ITALY. No deadline.

•**Phoenix Michael** (607 De La Vista, Santa Barbara, CA 93103) is offering packets of photocopy art for trade. The one he sent me was mostly devoted to making fun of our political leaders, from news stories on Dan Quayle's spelling mistakes to phony Marine recruiting posters.

•**The Rev. Rad-Chad with Kung-Fu Grip** is still into swapping sketches and envelope stuffings, or will send you some of his drawings for half a buck: SU Box 269, Georgetown, TX 78626.

•**Sex & Death** is the theme of a correspondence art show being put together by Joel 3 (PO Box 243, Huntington, WV 25707-0243. No returns, documentation to all participants.

•**Jerry Todd** (58 N. Columbus Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10553) is into swapping original art, including lots of eraser stampings, and bits of cultural flotsam, with other mail artists.

•**Michael Voodoo** (PO Box 12461, Lake Park, FL 33403) will bombard you with collaged postcards and other flotsam if you're fortunate enough to get on to his mailing list.

OTHER NEWS

•**The 1990 Poplust Calendar** comes to you from a batch of wild cartoonists and cool people in the cool city of Seattle. Every month features comics, a shimmering hard to catch page of days, and some important dates, like the day John Dillinger died. Real decorative, and you can get a copy for only $3 from R. Morgan, 1812 N. 40th #C, Seattle, WA 98103.

•**The 1990 Year of the Heart Calendar** is available for $1 from Freddie Baer at c/o Mystopia, PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151. It features a dozen collages from as many artists, including Freddie, Phil Lollar, and Jill Shutts.

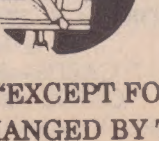
•**Action Linkage** is mutating into a non-dues all-volunteer organization, though the focus on future social change and how to get to the good society remains. Stay tuned for further details on getting involved via one of their Many to Many discussion forums.

•**Dan Adams** (PO Box 413, Decorah, IA 52101) sent copies of his "People without a whole lotta clothes on" postcard collection. It features 8 cards on reasonably heavy colorful stock with a variety of tasteful nudes from medievel to art deco. You can get the set for $2 & a #10 SASE.

•**The Alliance for Non-Violent Action** (Unit 235, 253 College St., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1R5, CANADA) is an umbrella group linking together a number of activists and groups dedicated to non-violent means of bringing about social change. You can become a member for $25, or get more information on request.

•**AMBERZINE** is a forthcoming authorized zine about Roger Zelazny's Amber multiverse. They'd like to hear from people who are avid fans of the books, interested in "really progressive diceless game systems", or people who can write or draw things of interest to the above two groups. Contact Erick Wujcik, PO Box 519, Detroit, MI 48231-0519.

•**ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNISM?** is the title of a flyer available for SASE (drop in a dime to cover photocopy costs) from PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189. It suggests that Jesus Christ was the first agent of



JUST SAY NO

"We think so too!"
Send $2.00 for a button or bumpersticker and brochure. $10 for 7
Call 701-852-2822 for bulk prices.

"EXCEPT FOR BEING HANGED BY THE FEET, the supine position is the worst conceivable position for labour and delivery."
(Caldyro-Barcia)

"Spread the Word!"

Minot Childbirth
Information Project
P.O. Box 3154
Minot, ND, USA, 58702

the International Communist Conspiracy, looking back at the things He did and how unAmerican they are. Specify white (for copying) or blue (for postering) paper.

•**Asphodel in Bandar Abbas Postycards** come from Allan Horrocks at 846 Thomas St., State College, PA 16803) and feature digitized video images captures with an Amiga computer. The two (out of a set of four) they sent me are on pastel card stock and show a pair of guys engaging in stylized motions.

•John Ohliger of **Basic Choices** (730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702) is seeking information on Loren Wheeler, one of the few Congressmen who actually voted against the US entering World War I.

•The **BONNIE JO ENTERPRISES 1990 CALENDAR** is available for $5, in limited quantities. It's got nutty art at the top of each page (including pieces from Donna Kossy and Ahmed Fishmonger) and birthdate notations of famous people on almost every day. It's all spiral bound. You can buy an annotation on next year's calendar for only $1; for details or to order write PO Box 184, Comstock, MI 49041. Incidentally, Bonnie Jo is looking for more people to supply her with weird art, so some of you folks who've been filling my mailbox with drawings might like to get in touch.

•**BOX O'FUN** comes from Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rt. 113, Lionville, PA 19353. Send a box, any size, "full of neat stuff", and Graham will return it with stuff from his own collection.

•**Burning Press** (PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118) has a new catalog out of their written and audio experimental works, available for SASE. They've done a lot of topflight works; if experioddica interests you, you should get this.

•**The Calligraphic Button Catalogue at the Top of the Food Chain** is the twelfth catalog of Nancy Lebovitz's hand-lettered calligraphic buttons, with hundreds and hundreds of available slogans. Some of the new ones in this edition: "Incompetence is better than no competence at all" and "To err is human, to blame it on somebody else is poilitics". Science fiction and computer programming are especially well interested, with prices starting at $1.75 and declining rapidly when you order in quantity. Even if you don't like buttons, the catalog makes amusing reading. To get your copy, send $1.50 to Nancy at 400 Wollaston Ave. #C-6, Newark, DE 19711.

•**Côte Blanche Productions** (Rt. 3 Box 614, Cut Off, LA 70345) is out with their **1990 LOUISIANA CATALOG**, full of gifts, zydeco music, Cajun French lessons, and other things to buy having something to do with that state. You can get a catalog for $1.95.

•It seems likely that every living being on the planet has seen the intolerant, bigoted and unintentionally funny Chick Bible Tracts by now. But I finally saw a copy of their Fall 1989 Retail Catalog and it's even more amazing. Tracts with your church's name on the back, tracts in obscure Central African language, special prices on lots of 10,000 at a time...No price on the catalog itself, but try $1 to Chick Publications, PO Box 662, Chino, CA 91708-0662.

•**Citizens for Rational Traffic Laws, Inc.** (6678 Pertzborn Rd., Dane, WI 53529) is a nationwide lobbying group opposing 55MPH speed laws and restrictions on radar detectors, among other things. Membership is $20/yr.

•**Community Capital Bank** (PO Box 404920, Brooklyn, NY 11240) is halfway to its goal of raising $6 million to open a socially responsible bank in New York City. If you have at least $5000 to invest, give them a call at (718)-768-9344 or (800)-827-6699.

•**Constance Enterprises** sells a variety of fetish magazines, including bondage, rubber, and shoe-oriented items, as well as the "Dressing for Pleasure Video". You can contact them at PO Box 43079, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

•**COOL TRAVELER** (PO Box 11975, Philadelphia, PA 19145) wants people to know that the current issue is delayed, but will be out soon.

•**CWM**, a new "magazine of the future" jointly edited by Geof Huth and David Kopaska-Merkel, is looking for work on the theme of "Water in all its forms" for the premiere issue. Work accompanied by an SASE may go to Geof at 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305 or to David at 4801 Cypress Creek #1004, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405.

•**DAGGER OF THE MIND** (1317 Hookridge, El Pason, TX 79925) is a new zine which intends to feature sharp, vivid fiction in various genres plus non-fiction on new scientific breakthroughs. Send an SASE for full guidelines or $3.50 for the first issue, due out about March.

•**DIABOLOS GRAPHICS EXCHANGE** ($2 per subject, plus $1 postage from PO Box 4527, Portland, OR 97208) Those hip deathtrip dudes sent a selection from their archive of macabre clippings on subjects of evil poetry, torture, facial mutilation, sex crimes, forbidden literature, vampirism, and eschatology. The format is back-to-back photocopies from sources which are generally available (for the most part) at a good research library. I was disappointed that they did not provide any citations, as one might be inclined to follow up some of these subjects, if Diabolos were only to blaze the way. But instead, their reproductions are assembled devoid of context. The evil poetry and vampirism pages were nicely designed, with text and eldritch illustrations that I recognize from a 1947 Sylvan Press edition of Baudelaire. Yet no provenance was indicated, the pages were just copied straight from the book, offered in an annoying (rather than tantalizing) vacuum. One assumes they could mine Les Fleurs du Mal for passages on absinthe and alcoholism, as they broaden their subject offerings, although this prospect makes me nervous, and it's more than sophistry; by not giving credit where it's due, these photocopies are of diminished value, reduced to cheap, cheesy and deliberate apocrypha. In some cases, the excerpts were from a publication with a header, as with Daniel P. Mannix's The History of Torture. Eschatology was summarized in a suite of four pages from a book (which book?) on the Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses. The facial mutilation series was from a book depicting the pre- and postoperative conditions of people suffering a traumatic loss of face, the reconstructive and cosmetic challenges posed in treatment. All in all, this "largest library on death and related subjects in the world" is a mixed bag: some slim pickings, some solid black nuggets. (Guest review by D.S. Black)

•**Earth-Base Projex** (PO Box 1328, Bloomington, IN 47402-1328) is looking for volunteers to help out in their construction of "self-powered self-sustaining closed-circuit home-based ecosystems". $3 for a complete information packet.

•**Eleutheros Prod.** (PO Box 141, Bearville, NY 12409) has issued a couple more poster incitements. The first features Santa Claus urging people to "BURN YR MONEY", while the other lays out the theory of the Permanent Universal Rent Strike. Try an SASE.

•**E&M Comics** is starting two new video game zines. The first will be devoted to every system *except* for Nintendo; the second will be for handheld LCD games. They're looking for reviewers for both zines; interested parties should write to 18C Boyle Ave., Cumberland, RI 02864.

•**Ephemera** (275 Capp St., San Francisco, CA 94110) sells a whole mess of buttons, hundreds of them, with hippie artwork or snide slogans. You can get their latest catalog for 3 loose 25¢ stamps.

•**FEH!** postcards are in full color, showing a derelict looking guy staring contemplatively out over a pastoral landscape. On the back there's a short excerpt from one of the journal's less odious poems. $1 for 7, $3 for 25, or $5 for 50 from PO Box 5806, Stn. B, Montreal, QC, H3B 4T1, CANADA.

•**The Fellowship of Humanity** (411 28th St., Oakland, CA 94609) is a Bay Area humanist group, interested in networking with similar groups in their own neck of the woods. For more information on their activities, try an SASE.

•**Flea TV** (90 Jericho Tpke. #136, Mineola, NY 11501) is starting a series of auction catalogs, ranging from movie memorabilia to men's magazines to old issues of MAD to baseball cards. Write for more information.

•**FREEDOM**, a venerable British anarchist publication, has announced plans to go fortnightly beginning in 1990. Subscriptions are now £23 for 24 issues by overseas airmail, from Angel Alley, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX, UK.

•**Mike Froerer** (30,000 Hasley Cyn. Rd. #33, Saugus, CA 91384) once again sent me one of his hand-made comic strip Christmas cards this year. In between heavy covers and saddle-stitched, this one follows Santa's attempt to help out Jerry Lewis in his search for an important disease cure. For $2.50 you can get a copy yourself.

•**"Get Conscious!"** is the slogan on the inside cover of the wacky 1990 calendar done by Jim Siergey and Carole Sobocinski ($4 from PO Box 3433, Merchandise Mart Stn., Chicago, IL 60654). With funny full-page art for every month and a birth, death, or bit of wisdom ("Dirty snow melts faster than clean snow", "Moronic Convergence - 1987") this one provides plenty of laffs for the buck.

•**Graphic Gratification Update** is the comics catalog of Chris Duffy (PO Box 91, Makanda, IL 62958). Send an SASE & Age Statement for the latest 2-page update.

•**The Grey Cat Official Tour of Jersey City 1990 Calendar** features photos of Jersey City landmarks with cats drawn in, quotes about strange occurrences, and lots of notes about dates in history, from Paul McCartney's birthday to the day a UFO was seen over Nebraska. They send it out for Free, though I suspect it wouldn't hurt to throw in a buck or two postage, and they really want cool or interesting dates for next year's edition "especially anything about UFOs, ghosts or any other weird kinds of occurrences. The address to write to is Snevil, PO Box 16430, Jersey City, NJ 07306.

•**Guillotine Press** (PO Box 2730, Long Beach, CA 90801) has issued almost a dozen postcards. Some of them feature poetry (Todd Mecklem and Cheryl Townsend among the contributors) and some small bits of art. No price that I can see, but a buck should get you a couple.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH YOUR VERY OWN UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPER** was a pamphlet put out by the Underground Press Service quite a few years ago. The prices are outdated, the organization is poor, and some of the revolutionary paranoia

SUBMIT!
Our 'zine is always looking for new and interesting submissions of:

ART * POETRY * SHORT FICTION
POLITICAL ESSAYS * CARTOONS
SPECIAL INTEREST PIECES

Send your submissions to:
THE WONDERLAND TIMES
P.O. Box 20794
Baton Rouge, LA 70894

LIMITED EDITION POSTCARDS & STICKERS
BONDAGE, PINUP, MONSTERS & MEDIA
7 CARDS—$1 & stamp, 15 CARDS—$2 & 2 stamps
DELUX SAMPLER—$5, A MUST FOR MAIL ARTERS!
ILL-VIS, BOX 1421, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08903
CASH PREFERRED, M.O. PAYABLE TO D. SPARTA.

is a bit much, but there's still useful ideas here. If you want a copy, Joe Lane (PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083) will send you one for $1.

•**Ill-Vis** (PO Box 1421, New Brunswick, NJ 08903) is still churning out more colorful postcards at $1 and a stamp for 7 or $2 and 2 stamps for 15 cards. Betty Page, psychedelic art, and classic booze ads are among their latest goodies.

•**David Lee Ingersoll** has his 1990 Calendar out, full of crazy punkers, elusive lizards, nutty annotations, and his wonderful artwork. I loved last year's edition and I'm really glad to see that he did another one. $10 for a calendar, or for a 25¢ stamp you can get his latest catalog. Write David at PO Box 15082, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

•**The Institute for International Cooperation and Development** (PO Box 103, Williamstown, MA 01267) sponsors group educational tours to places like Namibia, Nicaragua and the USSR. Participants study together for two months, travel for five, and then study for two more, at a cost of roughly $7,000. If you're interested, write for their current catalog/schedule.

•**The Institute of Advanced Thinking** (22 Salmond St., Belfast, ME 04915, no phone) offers free tent and sleeping bag space from May 1 through November 1 to traveling mail artists, artists, photographers, dramatists, poets, writers and crafters. They have permanent archives for literary productions, review small press, and offer one to one guidance. "No smoking, no drugs, no sex. Free."

•**The Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes** (c/o Jeffe, 1 Shelton Plc., North Street, Heavitree, Exeter, Devon, EX1 2RE, UK) sends out ritual and propaganda to faithful followers to better organize their worship of Otis and whoever else they like at the moment. A few bucks cash will probably add you to the mailing list.

•**The International Book Project** (1440 Delaware Ave., Lexington, KY 40505)is a group that sends used and new books out to students all over the world who don't have any. If you have books to donate, or funds for shipping, they'd certainly like to hear from you.

•**The International Music Workers Union** (PO Box 1162, San Francisco, CA 94101) is organizing a boycott of pay to play clubs in the SF Bay area, with pickets and posters to help spread the word. They've also recently co-sponsored a show of art opposing the War on Drugs. The latter has enabled San Francisco to join New York on the list of cities trying to enforce absurd laws, as Union founder Ron Gould got busted for postering in late December. Meanwhile the underground propaganda campaign against Ron Gould continues with a mix of fantasy and distorted fact, apparently fueled by members of the WWMU, including Tin-Ear from **HAPPY THRASHER**. Someone is also ordering lots of merchandise and credit cards in his name, and although I have seen no documentary proof as to who it could be, the WWMU seems likely.

•Mykel Board says that **Japanese Comics** are the best thing about the country where he's living for the moment (301 Hoyconfolt Sobudai, 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN). So he's willing to send them to you. He sent me a copy of **BUSINESS JUMP**, a comic for "business boys", with some violence and softcore porn in it—300 pages of comics in a language I can't read. You can get the same for $8 surface or $11 air. He's also selling "more intense" sex comics for $10/$13, or the infamous **RAPEMAN** comics for $12/$15. Send cash or IMO to his address above. Or you can write if you have questions—but enclose 2 IRCs if you expect an answer. Mykel is also working on the next issue of **NOTHING BUT RECORD REVIEWS**; you can send him tapes to the above address, but please hold off on records and CDs as he has no turntable access at the moment.

•**The Kindred Community** is Des Moines, a cooperative housing project for the homeless, is shutting down due to lack of involved people.

•**Kurluk** (PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231-6186) offers one-stop shopping for magical supplies, candles, incenses, Tarot readings, and related things. His latest Catalog & News Bulletin is available for $1, including some poetry and reviews as well as prices.

•**Left Bank** , a premiere source of anarchist and related books, has a new address: 4142 Brooklyn NE, Seattle, WA 98105. Their new phone is (206)-632-5870. For a buck or two, you should be able to get their current catalog.

•**Longevity Books** (West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK) has a list of cryonics and immortalist zines and societies in the US and UK available on request—'twould probably be polite to send an IRC.

•**LUNO**, the Learnign Unlimited Network of Oregon, is the brainchild of Gene Lehman, who may be reached at 31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009. Gene delights in life-long learning, wordplay, political commentary from a thinking liberal point of view, and other exercises for the brain. Drop him a buck to see his latest ramblings and games.

•**Magickal Days** is the name of a calendar which shows the progress of the moon and other planets and gives guidance for magickal workings for each day of the year from March 1990 through March 1991. For example, October 23, 1990 notes "Sun enters Scorpio. Magickal Working - Journey - A Beacon". You can get your copy of this spiral-bound calendar from The Ethnic Market, PO Box 3127, Morgantown, WV 26505 for $8 postpaid.

•**McOne Press** (PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763) is soliciting material for several future publications. **THE ICARUS REVIEW** wants material relating to Men's issues, while **ALL AVAILABLE LIGHT** is searching for spiritual literature.

•**Mondo Tofu** (222 S. College Ave., Oxford, OH 45056) has produced a postcard, sort of an artist's conception of Reagan added to Mt. Rushmore, complete with Teflon halo. Send a couple of stamps for a copy, I guess.

the world of silence

•**The National Native American Co-op** is a group of some 2700 Native American artists organized together to market their wares. You can get their latest 344-page directory for $21.95 from them at PO Box 5000, San Carlos, AZ 85550-0301.

•I ran across two addresses for the **Neo-American Church**, the religion founded by Art Kleps holding that LSD and other psychedelics are sacraments. These are about a year and a half old, and I haven't verified them, so you take your chances: Chief Boo Hoo Art Kleps, Gravestein 119, 1103 BH, Amsterdam ZO, NETHERLANDS; and Neo-American Church of Texas, PO Box 3473, Austin, TX 78764.

•**The NeoGnostic Church of Dewey, Cheatham, & Howe** (Name Withheld By Request, PO Box 2375, Placerville, CA 95677) is an esoteric offshoot of the Discordian Church, or so it appears from the tenor of their propaganda. $5 will make you a member, or an SASE may get you more information.

•**NEW PATHWAYS** (PO Box 863994, Plano, TX 75086-3994) has announced plans to go to bi-monthly publication this year, starting with the March issue. They promise full-color covers, more interior art, and other goodies, as well as the usual crop of innovative SF stories.

•**Ben Obina** (2 Steeles Ave. W, Box 125, Thornhill, ONT, L4J 1A1, CANADA) has had an implant put in his brain by space aliens, who are now revealing all sorts of things to him. You can get a transcript of his latest conversation with his "cosmic informant" for free.

•**The Official KHK 1990 Calendar** comes from Herb Jue, who puts out the zine **KVINDE HADER KLUB**. It features a collage of Chinese calendar pages, photos, and a map of Manhattan annotated as to things Herb thinks you should know. The back, at least of my copy, consists of old math exams. You can get a copy for 25¢ & an SASE from Herb at 144 Hester St. #8, New York, NY 10013.

•**Y. Olivers** writes "I'm running an underground forwarding & remailing service, inexpensive and confidential.". You can contact it at 61 Clarendon St., Boston, MA 02116.

•**PARAGRAPH** "is a new fiction magazine which will present the best of Canadian contemporary fiction, as well as interviews, essays, criticism, profiles, opinion, literary treats and book reviews". For further guidelines, you can contact them at 137 Birmingham St., Stratford, ONT, N5A 2T1, CANADA.

•**The Personal Management Agency** (Christopher B. Martin, 2108 Jefferson Park Ave. #A, Charlottesville, VA 22903-3008) is a new talent agency representing clients in the Charlottesville, Richmond, Washington and New York areas.

•**Pleneurethics** (5900 S. 12th St., Tacoma, WA 98465) "may be thought of as the school of thought that teaches a life style compatible with complete cerebellar competence guided by an ethical and wise mentality." They offer college scholarships at some Pacific Northwest schools, and will probably send you a flyer for an SASE.
]

•**Judy Pokras** (c/o Video Wave, PO Box 571, Peck Slip Station, Brooklyn, NY 10272) is available to do fanzine drawings on a pay scale to be negotiated. Some of her work will probably appear here sooner or later.

•**The Right-Brain Exchange** is a group of folks who get together to explore the creative arts as a way to personal growth. To get in touch, write to Lee Glickstein & Joy-Lily at 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

•Got the Christmas catalog from **Rip Off Press**, major distributors of classic underground comics. Their new offerings include the collected Fat Freddy's Cat book, sure to delight lovers of that series. A buck will get you on their mailing list at PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604.

•**Sabotage** (96 St. Marks Pl., New York, NY 10009) is a new anarchist bookstore and organizing center on New York's Lower East Side, which they call "Loisaida". They're looking for contributions to help them increase their selection, and are in the front lines of the struggle to protect squatters and the denizens of Tompkins Square Park from encroaching gentrification.

•**Science Fiction Mailing Lists** (40 Welles Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124) can supply various specialized mailing lists, including SF fans and progressive organizations, at $60 per thousand names.

•**SEE HEAR**, the fanzine store in New York, also sells zines and stuff by mail. You can get the current catalog by sending $1 to 59 E. 7th St., New York, NY 10003.

•**Sonic Bloom** is a combination mineral spray and sound treatment which is said to cause vastly increased produce yields. For details and a sheaf of clippings, write to Dan Carlson, Scientific Enterprises Inc., 708-119th Ln. NE, Blaine, MN 55434. It certainly looks as if he has something here, although I'd like to see some more careful scientific analyses and less anecdotal evidence.

•**The St. Priapus Church 1990 Phone Buddies Directory** is out, with listings of gay men who like to engage in sexual banter by either phone or mail. $10 will get you the directory and a 3-month membership in the club.

•**Technicians of the Sacred** (1317 N. San Fernando Blvd. #310, Burbank, CA 91504) sent me their catalogs of magical and ritual things for sale. They're strongest in voodoo, but also carry everything from Buddhist altars to Tarot cards. Oils, candles, robes, books, audio instructional tapes, you name it, it's here. $7.50 will bring you well over 100 pages of catalogs.

•**TIME WORM**, "The Magazine for Misfits", is coming back, and looking for prose that explores the magical side of daily life, including dreams, visions and epiphanies. Send submissions to Sean Wolf Hill, 2730 Monroe-Concord Rd., Troy, OH 45373.

•**The Tone Line Process** "is a method of converting a black & white or color image to a line impression by photographic operations. The conversion will produce an effect similar to a pen and ink sketch." For details, write to Jim Dapkus, Route 1, Box 247, Westfield, WI 53964.

•**Joseph A. Uphoff, Jr.** (1025 Garner St., D, Space 18, Colorado Springs, CO 80905) has recently received his black belt in karate, and is now active in designing new kata (formal exercises). He has instructions for quite a number of these already available. A buck should get you some samples.

•**Jouni Wäräkangas** (Poste Restante, 00980 Helsinki 98, FINLAND) has a set of four postcards available for $1 postpaid anywhere in the world. They're good examples of his work, detailed drawings of people with mystical connotations. These will definitely confuse your correspondents.

•**Waxman Candles** (1405 Massachusetts, Lawrence, KS 66044) offers a great many different innovative candles for sale by mail, including silhouette candles, multi-colored and multi-scented candles, skulls and more. A buck should get their latest catalog.

•**The Weedeater** is looking for other anti-authoritarians in Florida. You can contact them at USF #3146, Tampa, FL 33620.

•Got a poster and a pamphlet fro the **Word Strike Action Committee** (PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009): "From January 1, 1991 to December 31, 1993, don't say 'art' unless you mean 'money'". 50¢ should land you both.

•**WWMU** is the World Wide Music Union (PO Box 2246, Anaheim, CA 92814), a group of musicians in Southern California and elsewhere banded together for mutual aid. They've been most active in actual gig-related stuff, like hooking bands up for cheap shows and supporting the drive against pay to play. Dues are $3 per month, at least for locals, and they put out a newsletter when they have time. In December they called a "Unity Picnic" to organize a collective to do some publishing, shows and demos.

★★★★★

FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS

•A couple of things which used to be FF projects are now being handled by other people. The Gemstone File, that medley of modern conspiracy theory running about 90 pages, is available for $9 from Ron Bonds, 419 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030. And Martti Koski's pamphlet **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU**, telling of his own experiences with mind control at the hands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, may be ordered for $1 from Scott Tinch, 11401 Saga Ln., Knoxville, TN 37931.

•A short list of fanzine and other resources for prisoners is available to any prisoner for the asking. Just drop me a line requesting a copy.

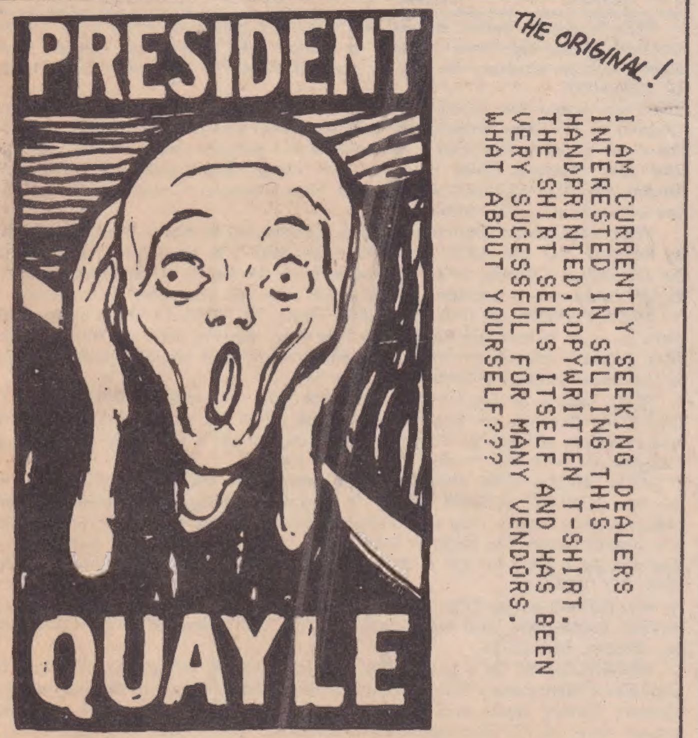
•I now have available for other publishers a list of distributors and stores who would like to see new zines for possible sale. This includes all the folks who sell FF, whether directly or to stores, and with as many details as possible on what they want and what their terms are as I know. Send me an SASE (be sure to tell me what it's for!) and I'll send you a copy. Those who have received a copy in the last six months or so should note that I have finally located Amok at their new address (4005 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90029) and they're back in my good graces.

•The collected **WHY PUBLISH?** book, including most of the words published on this subject in the first 30 issues of FF, as well as new material from Miekal And, Joel Biroco, Stewart Brand and Merritt Clifton, is now available for only $3.50 postpaid. Don't miss this; there were only 500 printed and I probably won't do any more.

•The collected book of Anni Ackner's columns is out at last!. The collection is called **NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, and it features all of her writings from FF, as well as four new columns (unavailable elsewhere), an introduction by Elayne Wechsler and graphics by Freddie Baer. 134 pages long, you can get a copy book rate for $4, or first class for $5.50. 75% of the profits are going to Anni, so I'd really like to sell a lot of these. Think what they'll be worth in twenty years when she's a wealthy mainstream author.

•**FACTSHEET FIVE T-Shirts**, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $8.50 postpaid. The only color available is yellow, but it's a yellow that will knock your eyes back into your skull, not some wimpy pastel color. Well, actually, the second edition is a bit wimpier (so you early buyers, you have a collectors' item!), but still beautiful. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation!

•I now have a new set of **FACTSHEET FIVE** ads available, also typeset and put together by Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some



I AM CURRENTLY SEEKING DEALERS
INTERESTED IN SELLING THIS
HANDPRINTED,COPYWRITTEN T-SHIRT.
THE SHIRT SELLS ITSELF AND HAS BEEN
VERY SUCESSFUL FOR MANY VENDORS.
WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF??

image from "THE CRY" Edvard Munch
© 1988 PDQ Productions Washington,DC.
T SHIRTS available S M L XL $12.00
P.O. BOX 6864, ARLINGTON,VA. 22206-0864
DEALERS:DISCOUNTS FOR BULK QUANTITIES
DECALS-$1⁰⁰-POSTCARDS-60¢

New Dan Quayle Watch!
Get ready for the 1996 ticket — Quayle and Doughboy! Color, quartz, $29. And for $5 check out the magazine behind this nonsense: The Jar, #T-1, 2042 Peach Orchard Dr., Falls Church, VA 22043

of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

•I am still offering the **FACTSHEET FIVE** mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of around 3600 names is available for $130. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for $100. I can also provide specialty lists (all fanzines, all distributors, all music zines, all artists, or most anything else you can come up with) for 5¢ a name on labels or 3¢ a name on paper.

•I am also prepared to offer the mailing list on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is archived on one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use (PC-FILE+) on three more diskettes. *You must have a hard disk to access the FF mailing list!* If you are interested in getting the actual text of the zine on diskette, please contact me to discuss appropriate hardware and software, or check the FF BBS. You can get the mailing list set for $18.

•If anyone doesn't want their name given out on mailing labels or diskette, please let me know.

•The **FF ZINE EXCHANGE** is still running, although there's a bit of a material shortage right now and it remains, as always, a low priorit compared to actually publishing the magazine. Zine Editors: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 25¢ to $2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope [10x13 is a good size]: two pounds is about 8 issues of FF, OK?). You should also take a look at a rate chart; while $2.40 will cover postage on two pounds, $2.30 is only enough for eleven ounces. I'd recommend springing for the full two pounds. You might also take note of four similar offers:

Dallas Swan's (PO Box 270, Horntown, VA 23395) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold;

Jim Testa's (151 First Ave., Box A., New York, NY 10003) Demo Xchange of band demo tapes, also available for a few dollars postage;

R. Wherever's (11 Bayberry Ln., Cohasset, MA 02025) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold.

and Rosemary West's (PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346) offer of personalized computer-generated poetry for 50¢ an ounce, up to five pounds—send your name and the names of a few friends to assure personalization.

Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all. OK, OK, I'll make an exception for those of you in foreign countries: just send me a check or cash and a self-addressed envelope and I'll do the rest. Those out of the country can supply up to $4.50 worth of postage, since the rates are higher. Those in the country should stop using such obviously glued stamps or I'm going to start pitching your envelopes in the trash. *This has already happened to some people stupid enough to ignore what I've said! Use mint stamps only!!* (Look, it's OK to glue down un-used stamps; what I'm upset about it people putting the glue over the top of them so they can be re-used. If this doesn't make sense to you, call me). And please be patient; Zine Exchange envelopes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Thanks to Cris Rowles, we are now caught up, or rather as caught up as we can be: the stack of zines ran out before the stack of envelopes, with the result that people who sent envelopes after late September are so far out of luck. *PUBLISHERS, we need more stuff!*

A few clarifications about the Zine Exchange: No, I am not going to send you any back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. No, you may not request a specific zine you saw reviewed here; that copy is in the archives, and that's where it's staying. You can request a specific type of zine, but often I cannot fill requests; it depends on what's been sent to me recently for distribution.

•I put together an index to each issue, usually about a 24-page pamphlet. If you want to see a copy, send me $1.50. To get it every issue, you should sign up for a library rate subscription.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** is my first book. In it I reveal darned near everything that I learned in ten years of small publishing, from production through printing and binding to the mails to promotion and financing. It's 91 pages perfect-bound, published by Loompanics, but I'll send you a copy of your very own—autographed even—for $6 postpaid if you buy it from me.

I've been following the reviews of this book with some amusement, so it's probably time to clear the air. Yes, the book is overpriced compared to the usual fanzine production; so is just about everything Loompanics has published, and I'm undercutting my publisher's price as far as I can. Yes, I know a lot more about fanzines than is contained in the book; the manuscript was started about five years ago. Yes, there is a revised version coming, probably around the start of 1991—and yes, I will arrange for those who purchase this edition to get the new one at a lower price. All satisfied?

ZINES

Sometimes I get publicity for zines without getting copies of the zines themselves. Here's the news on a few items that I haven't read for myself:

•**CONSPIRACY THEORY** (Jacek Staniszewski, Literatow 14A/1, 05-520 Konstancin, POLAND) is a forthcoming zine most interested in postmodernism, syberpunk, hardcore, situationism, Kathy Acker and other fringe topics. They're looking for contacts & contributions from around the world. Please do not write the zine name on the envelope!

•**DARK ALLEY** ($2.75 from Paul V. DeCrice, 409 Hixson Ave., Syracuse, NY 13206) is a new zine, set to debut this spring, "devoted to the presentation of the most jolting, horrible, and out-and-out scary poetry and art in existence."

•**DENDRON NEWS** ($15/10 issues from PO Box 11284, Eugene, OR 97440) is a magazine probing abuses in the psychiatric care system and exploring alternative options for humane emotional support.

•**GLOBAL VILLAGE VOICE** (TMC, 25 Broome House, Pembury Road, London E5 8LL, UK) will debut in February, 160 "Incendiary" pages of international text and images for $5 postpaid. #2, in March is to be on the theme "Circus, Carnival and Freaks", and they're looking for material.

•**INFOCULT** ($2 from PO Box 3124, East Hampton, NY 11937): That's the special pre-publication price for this coming "Journal of Strange Information" that promises "the Elvis/Manson/Scientology Connection, strange midget stories, violent India" and more.

•**JAMAICA TRAVEL WISDOM** ($1 from Tom Sinclair, 3855 W. 38 St., Cleveland, OH 44109) is set to debut in April, with advice for those who want to travel in that country. Tom is very interested in hearing from those who can provide such advice.

•**LEGEND** ($12 from Janet P. Reedman, 1036 Hampshire Rd., Victoria, BC, V8S 4S9, CANADA) is a fanzine of fiction centered on Sherwood Forest and Robin Hood.

•**MESSAGE POST** ($1 from PO Box 190, Philomath, OR 97370) is a zine for those into "portable dwellings"—tipi, camper, backpacked shelters, and more.

•**SHATTERMAC** ($18/yr from Erik Weems, 115 East Ln., Hot Springs, AR 71901) is a new MacIntosh computer zine., and from what I've seen of the page

The Quayle Quarterly
Dumber than Dan
A Heartbeat Away
An Important Guy
Inside this Issue

Dan Quayle is Getting Good Grades

from conservatives - can you picture him as our next president?

The Quayle Quarterly is dedicated to keeping a watchful eye. . .

Humor, critical analysis, cartoons, and more.

Send $12 for a 1 year subscription/$3.95 for a sample issue
The Quayle Quarterly, PO Box 8593
Brewster Station, Bridgeport, CT 06605

Good Vibrations is a catalog of sex toys.
The Sexuality Library offers over 200 books and videos.
Our approach is friendly, feminist and fun.
Send $2 for each catalog, $3 for both, to:

THE SEXUALITY LIBRARY · GOOD VIBRATIONS
Open Enterprises, 1210 Valencia St. #FF
San Francisco, CA 94110

comps it'll be technically oriented but readable. They're looking for contributors and programs to review.

•**STRIP CORE** (Katerina Mirovic, Celjska 14, 61000 Ljubljana, YUGOSLAVIA) is a new zine for all kinds of art, from music through video, comics, and anything else. Their first issue is due out in May and they'd like to hear from anyone interested in contributing to it.

GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

•If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

•On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

•I list single copy rates whenever I can find them, otherwise I try to indicate how many issues your subscription covers. If I put something like "$10/yr" it means I can't tell how many issues come out in a year.

•If I separate issue numbers with a dash, they're single issues; a slash indicates two-in-one issues. So, for example, "#7-11/12" indicates that I received #7, a double issue containing #11 and #12, and everything in between. Prices given are for one issue, not for a set of all the issues reviewed, unless otherwise indicated.

•On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage. "SASE" means self-addressed stamped envelope: #10 with 25¢ postage unless otherwise specified.

•Don't send loose coins in an envelope. If you want to send coins, tape them to an index card and wrap a piece of paper around that. And remember that there's a postal surcharge on envelopes more than 1/4 inch thick.

•Canadians generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds, but for other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs (International Reply Coupons, which can be exchanged for stamps almost anywhere in the world) at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get. Sending checks to other countries is not a good idea; bank exchange charges can be outrageous.

•"Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material.

•"The Usual" refers to the traditional method of obtaining SF fanzines without sullying oneself with cash. Generally this includes trading other zines, writing locs, contributing articles or art, or being recipient of a whim. These days $1 is often accepted as the equivalent to these more active approaches.

•I'd appreciate it if you'd mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.

•If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail.

•If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.

•Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you must have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone. And be patient; if the current issue is all gone, it may take a while.

•And since it may take a while, the envelope your order came in may get lost. Make sure your address is on the letter itself! Otherwise you may not get your copy despite the best intentions of the publisher.

•Most zine publishers are willing to exchange their zines for others, so I generally don't mention this in listings unless I know they *don't* swap. But use some discretion—a 150-page typeset music publication is unlikely to swap with a 4-page xeroxed newsletter on Central American farming. And remember, publishers are under no obligation to respond to unsolicited zines, so if you can't afford to give away the copy, don't send it.

THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after each zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper, or at least close to it:

A3	A3 size, about 11 1/2 by 16 1/4
A4	A4 size, about 8 1/4 by 11 1/2
A5	A5 size, about 5 3/4 by 8 1/4
D	Digest, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2
HL	Half Legal, 7 by 8 1/2 or 4 1/4 by 14
HS	Half Standard, 4 1/4 by 11
L	Legal, 8 1/2 by 14
M	Mini, 4 1/4 by 5 1/2
MM	Micro, smaller than mini
O	Oversized, larger than tabloid or odd-sized
Q	Quarto, 8 by 10
S	Standard, 8 1/2 by 11
T	Tabloid, usually 11 by 17 on newsprint

Next comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "t" for typeset or laser-printed, or "r" for photo-reduced type.

ADVERTISING

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

Full Page	7 1/2 by 9 3/4
Half Page	7 1/2 by 4 3/4
Half Page	3 3/4 by 9 3/4
Quarter Page	3 3/4 by 4 3/4
Eighth Page	3 3/4 by 2 1/4
Twelfth Page	2 1/4 by 2

Copy should be submitted as camera-ready, in the size it is to run. For sizes not on the list, please call me. *Please note: a standard business card is an eighth-page ad.* Current rates are as follows:

Back Cover with Second Color	$190.00
Full Page with Second Color	$170.00
Full Page	$145.00
Half Page	$80.00
Quarter Page	$50.00
Eighth Page	$25.00
Twelfth Page	$12.50

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices—and are protected from price rises during the life of the ad. This discount does not apply to twelfth page ads. This discount also does not apply to ads with a second color.

Yes, these rates are up by about 20% as we go into 1990. But the circulation is up 40% since the last price rise. I think they're still reasonable. If you don't, call me; perhaps we can work something out.

Ad space needing a second color, either back cover or interior, should be reserved with me before sending in copy, as this space is obviously limited. Other ads need not reserve space in advance, though you're welcome to do so. Generally, I do not trade advertising with other publishers, though I make *rare* exceptions for those with a large circulation in areas that I don't ordinarily reach.

CB 1989

COMING SOON . . . .

QUADRA-COLOR

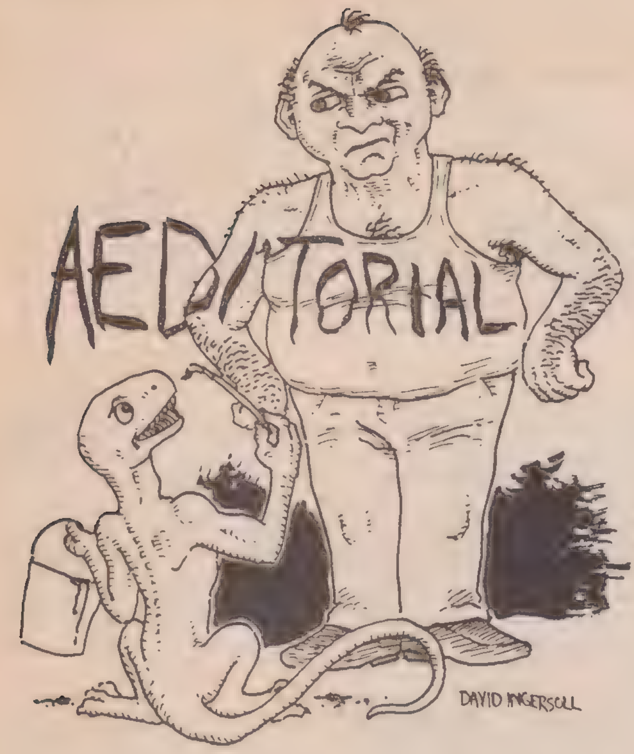
For newspapers, inserts, brochures
newsletters, books, magazines

If you're **serious** about **color,**

WORLD PRINTING

CALL US: **459-8455**

WORLD PRINTING 1104 CENTRAL AVE. ALBANY, N.Y. 12205



Although it does not "officially" exist, the Small Press Support Foundation begin operations this past December. The reason for its existence is that I feel keenly the amount of help I've gotten from all the other small pressers out there in recent years, and wanted to give some back to the community. So I took $500 from the **FACTSHEET FIVE** profits for 1989 and, with the help of a volunteer Board of Directors, gave it away to fanzine projects we thought deserved it. The first year's awards went to Ace Backwords, Bob Z., **SAMISDAT**, **PEACEMAKER**, Action Linkage, Denise Dee, **PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER**, and **STAR ROUTE**.

Some time during 1990 we hope to incorporate the SPSF and obtain tax-exempt status. Meanwhile, 2¢ from the purchase of each **FF** will automatically go to the SPSF (unless you write to tell me you'd prefer your two cents worth back). When we are able to take donations, I will certainly announce and encourage them.

Now, we're not going to be giving grants to people who ask for them. We're going to give them to people we think deserve them—more like the MacArthur Foundation than the National Endowment for the Arts, for example. So don't bother to write us just to tell us you need money. But if you know someone else in the small press who has given a lot to our community, who has been having some problems, and who deserves a helping hand—by all means, drop us a line.

Speaking of money, here's the final numbers from 1989. I believe in being open about what's going on here; it helps people judge whether the cover price is really necessary.

1989 income	$41,342.78
1989 expenses	$38,488.81
1989 profit (before SPSF donation)	$2,853.97

I put in a total of 3,514 hours on the magazine during the past year, which amounts to an hourly wage of about 81¢—nearly twice what it was last year, but still short of adequate when you realize this is my major source of income. It's numbers like these that led me to raise the cover price to $3. My budget for 1990 currently calls for a pre-tax profit of around $12,000—so I'm going to remain economically marginal. But I love what I'm doing, which makes it all worthwhile.

For newcomers, I want to mention once again that the short reviews in **FF** should not be thought of as authoritative pronouncements. I'm not infallible. I do the best job I can to hook readers up with things they would be interested in reading. Think of **FF** as an early warning system. After reading for a few issues, you should be able to judge my tastes well enough to know how they fit in with your own.

The 1990 cover competititon is over. If I selected your cover to appear, you will have heard from me by now. If I didn't, sorry. The competition was stiff, and with 40 artists submitting ideas, I did not send notes to all those who didn't quite make the grade. I'm going to keep these covers on hand, and will be in touch with some of you later about adapting them for other purposes. And watch for the 1991 cover competition towards the end of this year.

Occasionally I mention things in this section because I don't know where else to put them even though they're important. Such is the case of Dewayne Readus, a young, black, blind activist in Springfield, Illinois. Last year Dewayne went on the air with a one-watt FM radio station, broadcasting music of interest to the black community, publicizing incidents of police brutality, and encouraging young kids to learn radio. Thanks to segregated housing in Springfield, this signal was strong enough to reach 75% of the black community. It also reached the police department and the FCC, who have ordered Dewayne to stop broadcasting, and assessed a $750 fine against him. Although the FCC won't issue a license to an FM station below 100 watts, they won't let such a station operate unlicensed either.

Dewayne is prepared to fight in the courts and if necessary go to jail to try and get the right to broadcast. Since the station was not interfering with any other use of the airwaves, it's hard to see what justification there is for shutting him down—other than the obvious one, of course, that people setting up radio stations for $600 pose a threat to the established order. Meanwhile, various activists are getting together to challenge the FCC on this. For more details, you can either contact Dewayne himself at 420 N. 14th St., Springfield, IL 62702, or Ron Sakolsky from the Alliance for Cultural Democracy at RR1, Pawnee, IL 62558.

You may note that the press run has dropped for this issue. Fear not; I had just overestimated the last one a bit. Also I've dropped my New York City distributor, who accounted for several hundred copies. But the subscription list continues to expand, and the magazine is in no danger of folding.

I get press releases galore these days. People write me with long lists of things they're planning to publish, and ask that I print detailed specifications on each one and solicit contributions. They write to tell me of their new promotional companies and send two pages of information to pass on to musicians. I don't mind mentioning these things if they look useful to my readers. But I'm not going to print more than a paragraph about any of them. If you need more free advertising for a commercial venture...buy an ad.

The next **FACTSHEET FIVE** party, fourth in a series, will be held Saturday, March 31. If you are interested in being there, please send me an SASE for an invitation. I may or may not do a mass mailing to people who attended previous parties.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the people who helped out with FF over the past year, and welcome both new staph members and new readers. I have big plans for this year, and hope to continue to bring you a fun guide to obscure reading matter for a long time to come.

Lobias Fogcutter
Grinning Idiot Press
10163 115 Ave. N
Largo, FL 34643

Inviting your correspondance
Not currently publishing, but informally corresponding on pagan theology, logic, the future, politics, eco-war, resources, survival, healing and gaming.
Blessed Be, *or else.*

Hail Eris.

PUBLISHER'S CHOICE
MITTEN HEAD
MIKE
SNOWY
CATO
MAO
K. TREMBLAY

ANARCHY #23 ($9/6 issues from C.A.L., PO Box 1446, Columbia, MO 65205-1446): One of the top three anarchist papers on this continent (the other two are **FIFTH ESTATE** and **KICK IT OVER**—and this list is *not* in any particular order!), **ANARCHY** continues to improve. This issue includes a set of theses from Paul Z. Simons on play, Murray Bookchin on population and "overpopulation", and Noam Chomsky on propaganda. They're reprinting Raoul Vaneigem's **THE REVOLUTION OF EVERYDAY LIFE** in sections, and feature columns on the alternative press, the international anarchist scene, and (thanks to John Zerzan) nihilism. Their letter column remains long and vibrant, giving me some hope that the anarchist movement in the U.S. hasn't been completely hijacked by authoritarian anarchist "leaders" yet. (T-36t)

★★★★★

IAO CORE #12 ($4 from 326 Dogwood Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598): The IAO Core people have the fingers in lots of pies, including aural and video performance. This print issue has the theme of "Chaos" and it pulls together material from all over the map—a review of Gleick's book on the subject is later followed by a review of a Survival Research Laboratories performance. Hakim Bey gets excerpted, and Food Not Bombs issues a manifesto against the establishment. The art has a distressing feel to it bondage and guts and collage to excite and disturb. Poetic Terrorism, chaos comics, Lee Harvey Oswald, and who knows what else come together. Like a bad drug trip projected back in time from the next decade. (S-56t)

★★★★★

THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW #46 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): Beth Bosk talks to people, and publishes the resulting interchanges here. That may not sound like much, but between her style and the fascinating folks she picks and the issues in Northern California, it's great. In this issue, one of the main interviews is with Susan Jordan, one of the few women who's been practicing criminal law for years and who takes "movement" cases—defending women who kill their rapists, dope growers, confessed revolutionaries, and so on. She clearly respects the idea of justice while still working with the law. Another talk is with Michael Huddleston and Steven Day, a pair of gay environmental activists who are now dealing with AIDS as well as the Forest Service. There's also letters and a few lighter things, like the continuing "Noyo County Capers" comic strip. (S-56t)

★★★★★

□**THE OPTIMISTIC PEZIMIST #1** ($15/yr from Mike Robertson, PO Box 606, Dripping Springs, TX 78620): It's not too often that I choose a premiere issue for this column, but Mike's undeniable enthusiasm won me over. This is a specialized periodical for collectors of Pez dispensers. Inside, there are results of recent auctions (some of these things are going for $300 each), notes on variants and when and where they were issued, and ads from a whole batch of collectors. In a nice touch, one of the advertisers includes color photos of the dispensers in his current auction. Looks like time to go through that box of junk in the attic again. (D-24t)

★★★★★

SHOTS #18 ($2 from D. Price, 304 S. 4th, Danville, KY 40422): Dan Price brings to his photography tabloid the quality I look for in Publisher's Choice picks: passion. He's infectious about it too, turning even a dedicated text-person like myself into an appreciator of visual stuff, at least for the duration of his pages. Along with the photos—this issue's theme is "Big Pictures", images of people, places and things blown up to full page size—there's a couple of columns and news on what **SHOTS** readers are up to in the world of photography. Friendly and fun. This is the last of the large-format 10x13 issues; it will shrink to 8 1/2x11 soon, but that's still plenty of room for most shots. (T-48)

★★★★★

SIMPLE COOKING #25 ($16/4 issues from John Thorne, PO Box 58, Castine, ME 04421): Someone who can write eight pages about little more than baking white bread—and make it fascinating—is to be commended. John has spent quite a while perfecting a technique, and while eschewing the mechanical idea of a recipe for bread, he gives plenty of hints, on everything from cooking apparatus (cloche to outdoor wood-fired oven) to sourdoughs ("Even when the dough is aged to bring out its full, nutty-sweet flavor, there should be none of the boozy harshness that comes of making yeast blind-drunk on sugar and milk."). It's a delightful trip through solid American food, and one which always inspires me to dive into the kitchen. This issue has a double-sized supplemtn, **MANGE TOUT**, with readers' hints on cookbooks worth hunting for. (S-16t)

DIABOLOS GRAPHICS
EXCHANGE

Gore and much, much more — The perfect archive for publishers of death-zines and students of the macabre. Choose from our repository of sickness. We've got:

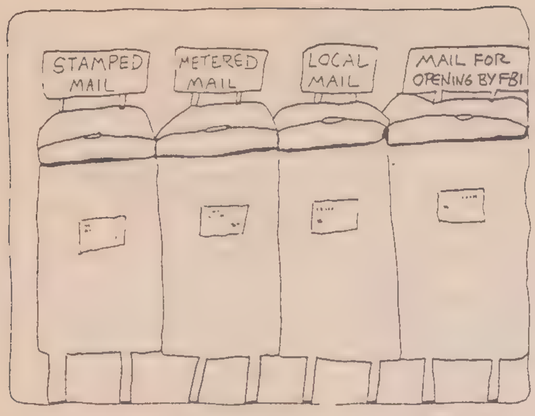
Self Mutilation (pick your part), Human Sacrifice, Charles Addams, Military Curiosities, Mythology Research, Death Trivia, Facial Mutilation, Evil Poetry, Execution, Genetic Mutation, Cannibalism, Skin Disease, Coroner's Photos, Funeral Art, Victoriana, Vampirism, Mass Murder, Torture, Ghosts, Paranormal Phenomenae, Horror & Splatter Movie Stills, Necrophilia, Sex Crimes, Highway Patrol Accident Photos, Satanism, Eschatology, Terata, Strange Suicides, Demonology, Skull Art, Mental Illness, Naziology and Assassination Techniques

11" x 17" posters and stickers available on request.

The largest Xerographic service on death and related subjects in the world.

Send $2.00 per category + $1.00 US/$2.00 foreign for postage and handling to:

D.G.E. — P.O. Box 4527; Portland, Oregon 97208



ZINES

You'll notice that some listings are now prefaced with the symbol □. This means that this is the first time this particular zine has been reviewed in FF. I hope this proves useful.

Also please note that the comics and music zine reviews have been moved to their own sections, due to many requests from readers. These immediately follow the main fanzine listings.

★★★★★

THE 11TH ST. RUSE Vol. 3 #2 ($1-2/4 issues from 322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003): These folks describe the zine as a "diary and hoax". #2 includes a short story featuring vegetables as prime characters, a consideration of the literary and philosophical ramifications of shit, and some letters from readers (which may or may not be hoaxes). They also tuck in other goodies, as with the two page printout of poetry accompanying my copy. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**21 CENTURY ARTIST WITHIN A YEAR** #1-2 ($1 (?) from Jeffrey D. Hess, Rm. #2 De Rivera Hotel, 125 W. Carrillo St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101): A broadside of art, poetry, and somewhat visionary writing. There seems to be a sort of Rainbow or Deadhead or Hippie spirit animating the whole thing, but the point is not yet clear to me. (O-2)

★★★★★

252 NEWS #5 (DM3 from Henning-Zeus Zipf, Bessunger Str. 33, D-6103 Griesham, WEST GERMANY): Club 252 is a role-playing game group, and this slick-cover zine is their production. Inside there are bits on games from miniatures right through computers. There's hobby news, reviews of other zines, a comic, and some new rules for something. All in German. (A4-28)

★★★★★

2AM MAGAZINE #14 ($5.95 from PO Box 6754, Rockford, IL 61125-1754): A well-done magazine of horror fiction with some nice trimmings, like extensive reviews of books in the field and a small press column. On the story side, Patrick McLeod's "The Confessional" does a nice job with an old theme, while Charles Pfister's "Spree" does a good deal of stomach-turning in its few pages. Other contributors include Kathleen Jurgens and Donna R. Phillips. (S-64t)

★★★★★

ABC NO RIO MAGAZINE #7 ($1 or so from Matthew Courtney, 156 Rivington St., New York, NY 10002): A fat collection of stuff emanating from the ABC No Rio club in New York and beyond. They feature graphics, poems, anarchist and gay and squatters propaganda, collage, stories, ranting, raving and who knows what else. This is the sort of underground culture that just can't be suppressed. (S-58t)

★★★★★

ABRASAX #6 ($4 from James M. Martin, PO Box 1219, Corpus Christi, TX 78403-1219): One of the more fascinating magickal journals openly available these days. The theme of #6 is "Technomagick", with an interesting opening article about quantum reality and its implications for magick and a couple of (somewhat basic) articles about the use of computers in magick. They also look at the fall of Communism in the light of the prophecies of Aiwaz, and Nasty Nergal is back with more cranky comments on the pagan scene. (S-56)

★★★★★

THE ACE Oct. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($16/yr from PO Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201): The Association of Clandestine Enthusiasts are shortwave radio listeners keeping track of unauthorized use of the airwaves. This ranges from pirate radio stations (even a SubGenoid "Voice of Bob" reported in the November issue) to the mysterious coded numbers transmissions to revolutionary voices from the contras and others. Much technical and contact information. (D-28r)

★★★★★

□**ACFTU BULLETIN** #4 (10 Fuxingmenwai Street, Beijing, CHINA): I don't know for sure how you can get a copy, but telling them you're a unionist when you write might land one. This is the English-language publication of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions. This issue gives the official line on the student uprisings in China—that the government was a model of restraint when faced with hooligans and ruffians agitating, that the workers were more upset than the troops, that everything is back to normal now, and so on. (S-8)

★★★★★

ACROSS THE LINES Vol. 1 #3 (Donation from Seeds of Peace, 2440 16th St. #241, San Francisco, CA 94103): Seeds of Peace is a support group for various social actions, variously providing food, porta-potties, and other logistical help. This issue discusses their recent experiences at Oak Ridge, the Housing Now march and the anarchist gathering, and has some notes on upcoming events. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ACTION BULLETIN #24 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): The newsletter of the Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes, an umbrella group which helps grassroots folks fight against waste dumps, incineration, and other attempts to spread around the junk of industrial civilization. Buried in this issue is the note that McDonald's actually showed a sales drop earlier this year; presumably the boycott called to protest their styrofoam hasn't helped them any. (S-28)

★★★★★

THE ACTION LINKAGE NETWORKER #35 ($50/yr from 5825 Telegraph Ave. #45, Oakland, CA 94609): This newsletter comes from a networking organization that is actively encouraging visionaries and world-changers to communicate with each other. They support a batch of apa-like "Many-to-Manys", and publish excerpts here, along with a bulletin board of networking notes and short articles. I find their work to be inspiring and empowering. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ADULT VIDEO NEWS Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($34.95/yr from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): A monthly look at the entire adult video market, X and R, straight, bi and gay. Mostly this is reviews, but they also pack in the industry gossip. With the December issue they began a three-part retrospective look at adult video in the 80's. Every issue also has plenty of ads (mostly directed at retailers and rental outlets) and charts on which videos are doing hot business. (S-82t)

★★★★★

THE ADVOCATE Fall, 1989 ($1 from The Peace Farm, HCR 2 Box 25, Panhandle, TX 79068): The Peace Farm is across the road from the Pantex nuke manufacturing plant, and is occupied by a hearty band of protesters who put their freedom and livelihood on the line to try to stop the arms race. This issue looks mostly at the legal consequences of all this, with a letter from prison, notes from a necessity defense (which the jury was not allowed to hear) and more. Inspiring and in need of support. (S-24t)

★★★★★

□**ADZINE** #12 (£3 from Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, UK): A review of what SF fans call "media zines": fanzines devoted to particular shows, such as Star Trek, Blake's 7, Battlestar Galactica, or even Starsky & Hutch or Beauty and the Beast. Janet lists dozens of these, primarily British, as well as clubs, conventions, and other contact points. A reference in depth to an area I barely cover. (A5-40r)

★★★★★

AFRAID Vol. 1 #2-3 ($20/12 issues from 2170 S. Harbor Blvd. #270, Anaheim, CA 92802): A monthly newsletter for the horror-writing community. #2 starts off with "The Good News", a column listing recent sales and deals. Inside, Janet Fox puts out some market news while W. Paul Ganley reviews various small-press horror zines. There's notes on how to write for page or screen, some letters, and a comics column. Pretty wide-ranging, and perhaps one that will take off. (S-16t)

★★★★★

AFTER HOURS #5 ($4 from 21541 Oakbrook, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-3044): A magazine of shuddery stories that take place after dark, which is the ideal time to read it, if you're not *too* skittish. Editor William Raley continues to put together a good read; this time he's got a slightly-revised Harlan Ellison story ("Paulie Charmed the Sleeping Woman"), an interview with Charles L. Grant, and great fiction from Octavio Ramos Jr., M.L. Archer, and plenty of others. (S-48t)

★★★★★

☐**AGOG** #1 ($3 & 2 stamps from Scott Gray, 372 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A new litzine with a nice color cover. Inside, the centerpiece is Erin Van Rheenen's "Grand Street", a tale of drug addiction and marginal life and love in the city. Laura Box's untitled poem, reflecting on memory, falls wonderfully down the last page. (D-26t)

★★★★★

☐**THE AGONIZER** Vol. 1 #1 ($12/4 issues from Sue Frank, 2508 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19103): This is a fanzine for members of the Klingon Strike Force—a group which takes on the identities of the Klingon race from *Star Trek*. There's Klingon history and sociology, weapon plans, and notes of the various Klingon fan organizations active here and now. This was news to me, but there's an excellent bibliographical article here with details on many other Klingon publications. (S-44t)

★★★★★

ALASKA METAPHYSICAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER Nov. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($12/yr from PO Box 93006, Anchorage, AK 99509-3006): These folks print a lot of general New Age stuff, from a bit on the Moment of Peace in the November issue to notes on what's happening in astrology at any given time. They also act as a sort of bulletin board for the local New Age community, printing phone numbers for a bunch of groups and resources. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE ALTERED STATE Vol. 6 #1-2 ($1 from Valerie Rosen, 1256 S. Garner St., State College, PA 168001): A high school paper that's been around for quite some time, perhaps thanks to its policy of providing pages to anyone at the school who wants them. This results in a mix of poetry, short stories, philosophy ("Cogito Ergo Sum" is coming in for quite a bit of discussion here), art, notes on education, and opinion pieces. I enjoy reading this;; it gives me hope for the future. (S-22t)

★★★★★

☐**ALTERNATIVE VISIONS** Vol. 3 #1 ($2/yr from UCSD Student Center Q-077, La Jolla, CA 92093): A tabloid paper aimed at the UC San Diego women's community; it seems to have close ties with the Women's Resource Center. They publish pro-choice material, poetry, editorials, articles on violence against women worldwide, and more. A competent collection. (T-12t)

★★★★★

THE AMATEUR COMPUTERIST Vol. 2 #4 ($5/4 issues from R. Hauben, PO Box 4344, Dearborn, MI 48126): This forum grew out of a programming class for workers at Ford. It's sort of an experiment in bringing computing ideas to the shop floor grassroots. Mostly it's history and short programs in basic. Hasn't really taken off yet, but the potential is there. (S-12)

★★★★★

☐**AMBERGRIS** #5 ($3 from PO Box 29919, Cincinnati, OH 45229): A litmag which has a sort of Midwest small city flavor to it, emphasized by the opening special section on Norwood, Ohio in this issue, which also contains the winners of heir second annual fiction and poetry contest. Among the stories here, I enjoyed Clay Dillingham's "Krusin For A Dutch Oven" and "The Kindness of Strangers" by William George. (D-86t)

★★★★★

☐**AMERICAN CEMETERY** Vol. 62 #10 ($15/12 issues from 1501 Broadway, New York, NY 10036): There's a trade journal for very profession; this is "The Magazine of CEMETERY MANAGEMENT". There's lots of news of the profession and feature articles on various places to go when you die, but the best part is the ads: everything from computer software for space planning to remote-control bell towers "specifically designed to generate a significant increase in your pre-need sales by enhancing your property." (O-104t)

★★★★★

AMERICAN FORUM Vol. 5 #33-36 ($4.95/6 months from 971 Van Duzer St., Staten Island, NY 10304-1863): A two-page weekly, with some weeks much longer than others and quite a string of address changes over the past several years. They feature personal ads and the occasional review. #34/35 is a special year-end double issue, with more overtly sexual content than usual. (S-2)

★★★★★

THE AMERICAN GAY ATHEIST Vol. 7 #10-12 ($24/yr from PO Box 66711, Houston, TX 77266-6711): This is a publication for those not afraid to come out of the closet and admit that they're...atheists. #12 opens with the results of a recent AIDS study that emphasizes the effectiveness of condoms, using this to segue into a blast of the Catholic Church's stands on condoms and homosexuality. Lots of short news bits and networking notes make up the bulk of the issue. (S-8)

★★★★★

AMERICAN INDIAN DEFENSE NEWS Vol. 4 #2 (50¢ from PO Box 563, Abilene, KS 67410): A small newsletter of Native American news and advertisements. Most of their news appears to be reprints from other, mainstream sources. The ads tend towards big mails and other moneymaking schemes. (S-4t)

★★★★★

THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST Nov./Dec. 1989 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63144): Whether you call it freethought, atheism, or rationalism, this one is "the alternative to religious superstition". Some of their articles are fairly light, as with the one on Muhammad in this issue. Others are chewy enough for the philosopher, for example, the examination of criticisms of Feuerbach's atheism. Book reviews and short bits of religious news that makes religion look silly are regular features. (S-16t)

★★★★★

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER #19 ($6 from 27 Oak Creek Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803): Think of the average trade journal, something directed at stonemasons or accountants or industrial engineers. Pretty dull, right? Well, this trade journal is anything but average, in that it's downright fun reading. Everything you always wanted to know about stepping off the edge of a tall building with boatswain's chair and squeegee (and then some). (S-24t)

★★★★★

AMERICA'S AT OUR DOORSTEP Vol. 3 #1 (Stamps or trade from Dennis Brezina, PO Box 411, Churchton, MD 20733): Is there another newsletter published by a bed and breakfast host? I don't know of any, so we'll all have to appreciate this amusement the more so. Dennis publishes notes from his business of hosting, letters from bushmen, political epigrams, poetry, cartoons, and general silliness. I like it. (S-6)

★★★★★

ANGLOFILE Vol. 2 #4 ($2 deom PO Box 33515, Decatur, GA 30033): A newszine for those who are fans of the various British media: movies, television, and music for the most part. #4 includes a story on the Animals, an interview with Paul Darrow (from Blake's 7) and several reviews of recorded stories. As always, they feature plenty of news about the latest shows, both in Britain and as imports. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ANTHONY M. EGAN NEWSLETTER #15 ($1 from 612 E. 14th St. #17F, New York, NY 10009): A selection of clipping sand tips for those who are into the outre or the neo-Pagan. Anthony combs major media sources as well as the zines, hopping from the Vatican condemnation of Yoga to a schedule of psychic fairs. Comes out irregularly, but always seems to come out sooner or later. (S-10t)

★★★★★

ANICHTI POLI #20 ($2 or so from PO Box 20037, GR-11810, Athens, GREECE): Peace, love, music and ecology—among other things—from our Greek friends. #20 seems to be even farther out than usual, with Genesis P. Orridge, Abbie Hoffman and Alexander Crowley, plus the usual assortment of far-out graphics and Greek text. (A4-32)

★★★★★

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA Dec. 1989-Feb. 1990 ($22/yr from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): A glossy and well-packed magazine of animal rights and ecological issues. The December issue has news of the Carme boycott and thoughts on how to change peoples' behavior. February analyzes the state and future of the movement as we enter the nineties. There's always a ton of short news notes as well. (S-60t)

★★★★★

THE ANTENNA #3 ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104): Peter's zine of "Cinema and Popular Culture" seems to be drawing a lot of new writers these days, and is printing some interesting work. The best part of this issue was the series of essays and random thoughts on decadence, including contributions from Dick Freeman and Lisa Herskovits. The movies run from Tucker all the way back to Invasion of the Saucer Men. Elvis, an interview with the editor, Film Noir, and more. (D-32r)

★★★★★

ABOUT APAS

"Apa" stands for "Amateur Press Association". Think of them as cocktail parties in print. Every apa has a central person who does the assembling and mailing of each issue. Members write whatever they want, make an agreed-upon number of copies, and send them to this person, who then collates the individual submissions into sets which are stapled together as the final apa. Costs are covered by each member paying for their own printing and postage. Many apas will sell you a sample copy so you can get a feel for their flavor and interests, but the bottom line is that this is participatory publishing, so if you aren't interested in contributing, don't bother to get in touch. Although there are hundreds of apas, most won't trade with other zines, which is why I only list a dozen or two.

★★★★★

APAEROS #23 ($3 & Age Statement from John and Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): A reader-written unedited forum about sex and relationships. Things seem to be picking up here lately, with some new members and lots of fascinating conversations—as well as drawings, poetry and short stories. No topic is out of bounds here, so be prepared if you decide to join in. (D-32r)

★★★★★

APA-TAROT #47-48 ($2 or so from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Monte Sereno, CA 95030): This one is for Tarot card lovers, users, collectors and interested bystanders. Lots of the members use some of their space to run pictures of obscure decks (not all Tarot—this overlaps with playing card studies in general). Topics include the reason why cards work, individual histories, and general ties with larger lore. (S-111)

★★★★★

APATHEIST JOURNAL #4 (SASE from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): This one is aimed at those who don't care—to encourage them not to care. Rather than engaging in debates on the eternal questions of the world, Apatheists make fun of those debating, or wander off and do their own thing. The editor even discourages writing; he doesn't care whether he hears from his readers. (S-1)

★★★★★

AQUARIAN ALTERNATIVES #168 ($12/12 issues from 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): The Aquarian Foundation is a group which is interested in building a better future for the world. This issue contains some more notes on intentional communities (see FF33 for a review of their excellent video *Where's Utopia*) and quite a bit on their latest passion, the abolition of the military. (S-8)

★★★★★

ARENA REPORT Vol. II #5-7 (75¢ from Ron Lemieux, 370 Lake Tahoe Ct. #102, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701): A short wrestling newsletter which concentrates on match reporting, gossip, and feisty letters. It's got a sort of kitchen-table grassroots feel to it. (S-6)

★★★★★

ARMED CITIZEN NEWS #202 ($10/6 issues from NAKBA, PO Box 78336, Seattle, WA 98178): The National Association to Keep and Bear Arms operates this one as a sort of clearinghouse for gun-owner activism. They reprint anti gun control editorials and stories from all over, and have ads for dozens of other Constitutionalist and conservative groups. Some deep thinking, some rather shallow defensiveness. (T-8t)

★★★★★

☐**ARMY MAN** #2-3 ($15/6 issues from PO Box 1620, Boulder, CO 80306): "America's Only Magazine" is sort of no-humor humor—that is, an extended series of shaggy dog stories and other pointless jokes that aggravate by their refusal to stick to the normal parameters of humor. For example, from #3: "I saw a clever bumper sticker the other day"—and that's all we're told, with the bumper sticker remaining pointedly off stage. (S-12)

★★★★★

ART

DAH JILT ART MAGAZINE #2 ($2 from PO Box 87128, Atlanta, GA 30337): An art magazine for "the industrial, the surreal, the erotic" which features everything from photographs (Anna DeFelice's shadowed nudes standing out) to drawings and collage. They distribute this all over the place, and are happy to make images available on photographic prints or t-shirts. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**ARTCORE** #5 ($1 (?) from PO Box 49324, Austin, TX 78765): A collection of art and writings from the fringes of the psyche. Much of this seems designed to wallop the reader upside the head and so provoke thought, or at least disgust. Short stories and poetry mix with the more visual stuff. (HL-20r)

★★★★★

ARTPAPER Vol. 9 #4-5 ($20/yr from 119 N. 4th St. #303, Minneapolis, MN 55401): Never mind that this is nominally a tabloid of the arts in Minneapolis. #4 includes Bob Black on the Art Strike and Chris Dodge and Jan Disirey with an excellent overview of "The Activist Librarians". #5 has "decentralization" as a theme, leading off with some of Carol Moore's latest thoughts on the subject. Zines, garage bands, one-watt radio (WTRA), women's music festivals, mail art, role-playing games, appropriate tech and co-ops all go into the stew, making this an inspiring set of articles. As a bonus you get Bob Black's letter on the recent bomb sent to his apartment here in Albany. (T-32t)

★★★★★

ARTPOLICE Vol. 16 #3 ($1 & 2 stamps from PO Box 10265, Minneapolis, MN 55458): A collection of drawings, some satirical, some funny, some psychedelic, some deranged, some pornographic. They all mix together to form a spectrum of cutting edge work, with the inevitable few pieces that don't do much for me and always a few that make me stare and wonder. The centerfold this time is a medley of work capturing many of the Artpolice artists. (D-16)

★★★★★

ARTS AND BUSINESS QUARTERLY Vol. 2 #9 ($25/yr from Prince George's Arts Council, 6611 Kenilworth Ave. #215, Riverdale, MD 20737): The quarterly newsletter of a group which acts to bring business support to the arts. Being reasonably close to the nation's capital, they don't seem to have a whole lot of trouble doing so. Might be of interest to artists planning to compete for grants. (S-6t)

★★★★★

☐**ARTSY** ($5 from Clif Militello, PO Box 9075, Long Island City, NY 11103): A showcase for cartoon art, with this issue concentrating on the humorous side (notably through an interview with William Gaines from **MAD** Magazine). The art is the strongest point here, including a spotlight section of work from Jack Davis. The writing could use some work, and they should be forcibly restrained from using so many MacIntosh DTP special effects on their pages. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**ARTWEEK** Vol. 20 #43 ($2 from 12 S. First St. #520, San Jose, CA 95113): The heart of this one seems to be the extensive listing of shows going on, mainly in California but also across the West and with a few national listings as well. The rest of it is reviews, of installations, spectacles, performances, and events. (T-16t)

★★★★★

ASH #2 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* "or live cows shipped via UPS" from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave. #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): This one is open to all sorts of creative output, which so far means mostly poetry, with a number of familiar small press names here: Weiss, Brownstein, Evason, Kittell and Hay among them. Norma Lee Edwards provides a revisionist look at the story of Medusa while Joe E. has half a dozen pages of great artwork. (S-38)

★★★★★

ASYLUM #19 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 6203, Santa Maria, CA 93456): An attractive little litmag which publishes a lot of short and fairly experimental work while still maintaining some ties with the mainstream. In this issue I enjoyed Charles Webb's deconstruction of Disney ("Further Adventures of Uncle Scrooge") and Ronald Baatz's "Andreas", a short rumination on the last supper. (D-40t)

★★★★★

☐**ASYNJUR** Vol. III #1 ($2.50 from PO Box 567, Granville, OH 43023): A serious journal of Nordic and Teutonic paganism, explicitly opposed to "neo-nazi and white supremist distortions". This issue has a look at the old holidays, a ceremony to honor Freya, a book review, and more. There's some specialized language involved, but most of it can be picked up from context. (D-28)

★★★★★

THE ATLAS Winter 1989 ($1 from Nancy lebovitz, 400 Wollaston Ave. C6, Newark, DE 19711): This is the newsletter of the Alexander School of Philadelphia, a learning center for students of the Alexander Technique. Nancy elsewhere has called AT "A way of improving co-ordination by getting out of the way of one's ability to move freely". Much of this material may be of interest only to such students and practitioners, but if you feel like your body needs a change, it's worth checking out to see if this feels right to you. (S-18)

★★★★★

THE ATROCITY Vol. 13 #11-13 ($8/12 issues from Hank Roll, 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): Rude, crude, and often funny bits from some of the less-balanced souls in MENSA. They specialize in off-color jokes, office cartoons, and absurd letters, with a sideline in t-shirt and bumper sticker slogans. Almost nothing here is politically correct, but I laughed anyways. (S-20)

★★★★★

AUSTIN WRITER Vol. 9 #12 ($30/yr from Austin Writers' League, 1501 W. 5th #109, Austin, TX 78703): This writers' group is now almost ten years old, and has a lot of members. They put out a good-looking collection of market news, legal advice, and writing about writing. #12 has an update on the activities of their SF/Fantasy/Horror group and an interesting article on the value of Forewords from Marilyn & Tom Ross. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**THE AUSTRALIAN EXPATRIATE** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($20.12 issues from 3809 Plaza Dr. #107-307, Oceanside, CA 92056): A new slick-covered magazine aimed at the estimated 100,000 Australians living in the United States. They cover some current Aussie news, from the America's Cup challenges to the Australian Film Festival, plus US law as it relates to business and immigration and where to buy Vegemite in the States. There's also crosswords and dreamtime legends for that Australian cultural flavor. (O-16t)

★★★★★

AUTOPSY #6 ($2 *CASH* from 89 Pangeza St., Stafford Heights, Brisbane, Qld. 4053, AUSTRALIA): A mix of splatter movie and hardcore and related music coverage—all the joys of being young and in search of new sensations. Movies done here include *Brain Damage* and *Human Animals*; on the music side they get into some almost mainstream releases. Some fanzine coverage too. (A4-8r)

★★★★★

☐**A.Y.F. BULLETIN** #2 (SASE from PO Box 8585, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A new link in the Ecomedia network of anarchist publications, this one is so far concentrating mostly on the news from Minneapolis, although there are notes on their communication with Polish anarchists in this issue. They're working closely with the Anarchist Youth Federation Distribution Service as well as the **PROFANE EXISTENCE** collective. (L-2t)

★★★★★

BABEL #15 ($1 from Glenn Wilkins, 605 13th St., Knoxville, TN 37916): A co-operative exploration of photocopy work by Glenn, William Douglas, Russell Williams, and Eric Jantz. Most of the work here has been altered in some way by the copier, though some bits are verbal as well (for example, the strange interview with a local soupchef). I liked the collage of rent checks and angry note from the landlord. (S-20)

★★★★★

BABY CONNECTION NEWS JOURNAL Vol. 5 #5/6 ($9/6 months from PO Drawer 13320, San Antonio, TX 78213-3320): A support newsletter for the new parent, faced with this baby and wondering what to do for it. They're especially strong in tipping readers off to new products designed using the latest research findings about the sort of stimulation babies should have. These range from traditional crib hangers to new things like custom videotapes. (T-8t)

★★★★★

BACK BRAIN RECLUSE #14 ($4 from Anne Marsden, 24132-A Hollyoak, Laguna Hills, CA 92656): Published in England, this is one of the better SF fiction zines around, publishing a lot of work that ten years ago might have been called "New Wave" but now is just more good and experimental storytelling. There's a collaboration between Don Webb and t. Winter-Damon, Michael Cobley's rather cinematic "Synopsis of a Looking-Glass Rebellion", and David William Sheridan's hellbound "Devil's Advocate" to enjoy here, for starters. A very savory package. (A4-63t)

★★★★★

BACKWOODS HOME MAGAZINE #2 ($3.50 from PO Box 1624, Ventura, CA 93002): A little bit of everything for those of us who want to get out of the city—or preferably who are already doing it. In this issue there's some basic advice on solar power and on water filtration; Christmas ornament and weaving plans to keep the kids busy; profiles of successful backwoods folks, and earthquake safety tips. Yurts, interior decoration, and more are crammed in all available corners. Doing well for a young magazine. (S-56t)

★★★★★

☐**THE BADGER** #4 ($20/yr from Reform Toronto, 633 Lakeshore Blvd. W #309, Toronto, ONT, M5V 3B9, CANADA): Reform Toronto is a citizens' group interested in slowing the rush to development in Toronto, and providing affordable housing rather than more office space. In their newsletter they explain current city planning and their alternatives, and take a hard look at who should be removed from the city council to give reform a chance. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE BAG #32 (SASE & Personal Note from Buddah Worthmore, 28313 58th Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079): Alternative music, the joys of running a screwy record store, and the ins and outs of the underculture combine here to make an enigmatic package. You can read about the editor's cat or his business, or (in #32) see excerpts from what other people have written as "personal notes". I'm sure you could do much better. (S-4r)

★★★★★

BAHLISTI PAPERS Vol. IV #iv-v ($2.25 from Kali Lodge, Ordo Templi Orientis, PO Box 15038, New Orleans, LA 70115): This is a monthly paper of magick with a somewhat left-hand slant. What stands out is their sense of humor; in addition to serious pathworkings and Enochian visions, they manage to sneak in a batch of serial fiction with a sort of gonzo style. They've also got various events going on in their own area and might be worth contacting to learn from. In #v there's a bit of a storm brewing over apostolic succession in the Gnostic Church. (S-10t)

★★★★★

BAKER STREET GAZETTE #3 ;BAKER STREET GAZETTE($4.90 from Baker Street Publications, PO Box 994, Metairie, LA 70004): This one is for aficionados of Sherlock Holmes. They lead off with letters and a bunch of Holmesian newspaper clippings before getting to the meat. This issue that includes a pastiche by W.E. Dudley, an article on C. Auguste Dupin by Michael Murphy, and R. David Ludwig's summary of what's known and speculated about jack the Ripper. (D-68r)

★★★★★

BALCONY OF IGNORANCE #5-6 (50¢ or 2 stamps from Claude Bottom, 55A Centennial St., Seabrook, NH 03874): A bit of pop culture, a bit of personal ranting, and who knows what else. #6 expands into a new format as Claude finds lots to publish: lists of record-groove messages, horrible comics, burning questions ("Do Austrians actually eat Vienna sausage?"), and music and zine reviews. There's also a prize in every issue; I got a pair of clear plastic ants. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

☐**BATS** Vol. 7 #3 ($25/yr from BCI, PO Box 162603, Austin, TX 78716): This is the members' newsletter of Bat Conservation International, a group who thinks the flying furry critters have been unjustly maligned. They help out with and report on scientific research, and print lots of pretty pictures of bats. (S-16t)

★★★★★

BEHIND THE WALLS Nov. 1989 ($5 [prisoners] or $10 [others] per year from 5 Star Press, PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065): This is a fast-growing newsletter of prison support, active on a lot of fronts. Originated by Michael Stotts, it gives notes on current Constitutional cases, prison conditions around the country, and struggles to make them better. They're also running a pen pal service and thinking about a resource directory. (D-20t)

★★★★★

BELLOWING ARK Vol. 5 #6 ($12/6 issues from PO Box 45637, Seattle, WA 98145): The publishers here are still involved in a letter column scrap over the Rushdie affair. Meanwhile, they continue to publish relatively traditional poetry, as well as short stories and (in installments) a novel. In #6, I got a kick out of Susan Ross's condensed biography "Mommyopoly" and the quiet poetic voice of Madelon Bolling. (T-20t)

★★★★★

BENT #3 ($1 & Age Statement from Cellar Productions, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): A collage of current news, pro wrestlers, bear hunters, penile enlargement device ads, bondage accessories, murders, the War on Drugs, and other low points of our society. It's sort of like having a ton of tabloid newspapers boiled down and dropped in your face. (D-12t)

★★★★★

BETWEEN THE LINES Vol. 1 #7-8 ($10/yr from Sacramento Peace Center, 1917A 16th St., Sacramento, CA 95814): This is a cooperative paper—which means that many groups take responsibility for producing a page each. Thus there is space here from Greens, and boycotters, and Palestinian rights activists, and populists, and the Democratic Socialists, and more. There is also jointly-funded space for major stories; in #8 an interview with activists from the CSUS African Student Alliance takes up most of it. (T-16t)

★★★★★

☐**BETWEEN THE ROPES** Vol. 1 #11 ($1 from 336 Harbor Dr., Lido Beach, NY 11561): Jointly edited by Adam Horowitz and Brad Burns, this wrestling zine comes out twice a month. Unlike most of the other wrestling newsletters I've seen, they skip the short gossip bits in favor of longer editorials on the shape of the scene. In this issue they discuss, among other things, Titan's chances in Japan and the difficulties of being a booker these days. (S-6)

★★★★★

BIG RED RAG Vol. 3 #2 ($3 from 108 Schuyler Pl., Ithaca, NY 14850): An excellent feminist newspaper put out by a collective at Cornell that's trying to get people to examine their hidden assumptions, starting with their name. There are fine articles in this issue on a woman's place as a Cornell employee, women, AIDS and prison, and the problems women face in working with the IRA. (T-12t)

★★★★★

☐**BIG WEDNESDAY** Vol. 1 #2 ($5/2 issues from 91 Payson Ave. #1G, New York, NY 10034): This is a confusing sort of new wave literary magazine, heavy into typographic tricks and stories which avoid the usual. Jennifer Waters' "White Trash Debutante" is a story of growing up punk, while Arthur Nersesian's "Lucky Break" examines the eerie pointlessness of comedy. Plenty more to chew on here, including a few poems. (HL-32t)

★★★★★

THE BLACK FLAME Vol. 1 #3 ($3.25 from PO Box 499, Radio City Stn., New York, NY 10101): A Satanist periodical that follows ruthlessly in the footsteps of LaVey. It's growing fast, with lots of essays here about the justice of vengeance, Satanic rules to live by, and so on. Of interest in this issue is an article alleging that nearly all Satanists and Odinists in Britain are Fascists, and the rather sarcastic "Truth About Santa Claus", which takes paranoid Fundamentalist fantasies and builds on them to the point of absurdity. (S-24t)

★★★★★

BLIP #124 ($1 from Joka Press, 106 S. Spruce St., Box 74, Nokomis, IL 62075): This "Brave Little Impossible Publication" is pretty good at getting chuckles out of me, as Joe Kempe does well with current events as a humor source. He also prints puzzles, discusses history (well, you might call it reminiscing instead—whatever, Mumble Peg gets a page here) and carries a batch of baseball stuff (the pages I skip). A nifty editorial presence and the occasional limerick make this memorable. (D-40t)

★★★★★

BLUE LIGHTS #27/28 ($6 from Lil Sibley, 4945 "U" St., Sacramento, CA 95817): There are still a lot of fans of the Starman TV series out there. In fact, they've organized Spotlight Starman, a decentralized fan group of which this is the newsletter. In addition to continued campaigns to put the series back into production, they pass on all sorts of info about the episodes that were filmed, hold conventions, publish new Starman ideas, and have a lot of fun. (S-50)

★★★★★

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Vol. XLIII #3-5 (Donation from Institute of Human Relations, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA 70118-6195): A monthly single-topic letter which always revolves around something from the peace or social justice arenas. In November it's the prospects of conversion from a military to a civilian economic base, with a look at communities that have successfully made the jump. December examined the Nicaraguan elections, explaining the procedures and evaluating them. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**BOBWORLD** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from Bob Pagani, 1001 Belvidere Rd., Phillipsburg, NJ 08865): A new and somewhat humorous newsletter. Most of the first issue is filled with a surreal story about a guy who gets and loses self-confidence. In an interesting sidebar, Bob is offering to write selected readers into his will to receive an internal organ on his death. (S-4)

★★★★★

BOILED ANGEL #3 ($2 from Michael C. Diana., 519 Cleaveland Ave. SW, Largo, FL 34640): This is the most gruesome comic I get regularly. Michael and his cohorts draw scenes of rape, torture, mass murder, psychosis, and other awful things. Festering wounds and distorted bodies, as well as reworked celebrities (the Brady Bunch goes to hell in this issue) are specialties. The whole is dressed up with a few actual autopsy photos and reports of famous murderers. (D-76)

★★★★★

BOING BOING
HAVE FUN WITH YOUR BRAIN
• CYBERPUNK • HUMOR • SF • COMIX •
• NEUROTOYS • HACKING • REVIEWS •
4 ISH SUB $10/CHECKS TO 'CASH' ISSUES 1 & 2 $3 EACH
PO BOX 12311 BOULDER, CO 80303

□**THE BOND** ($10/yr from NAMI [note "SAC NETWORK" on check], 2101 Wilson Blvd. #302, Arlington, VA 22201): From the Siblings and Adult Children's Network of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill comes this support journal. It's a mix of personal stories and articles, all designed to let people with mentally ill relatives know that they are not alone and that there are resources for help out there. (S-12t)

★★★★★

BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING #10 ($5 from R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475): A meeting place and guide for paperback book collectors. They feature lots of articles on collectible books, with plenty of photos of covers to whet your interest. There's a Cornell Woolrich checklist in this issue, plus a look at paperbacks with movie tie-ins. The letter column provides a fascinating look at this hobby. (S-60)

★★★★★

BOONDOGGLER #2-3 ($1 (?) from Steve C. Brothers, USS Brunswick ATS-3, FPO San Francisco, CA 96672-1418): A mix of insults, collage, and alleged humor. Steve doesn't claim that his zine is any good, and having set low standards, he wallows in them. Occasionally he gets a funny slam in against someone or some trend he doesn't like. #3 includes an absurd but apparently genuine law enforcement warning on new ways to get stoned (tobacco laced with toothpaste?). (S-12)

★★★★★

BORDER/LINES #16 ($16/4 issues from Bethune College, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, ONT, M3J 1P3, CANADA): This one has the subtitle "cultures contexts canadas"; inside is a wide-ranging exploration, academic in tone but not inaccessible. #16 includes surveys of Italian and Canadian feminist journals, which are set off by an attempt to write literary discourse in a new vein. There's an article on Bikes Not Bombs, one on the film **Shoah**, and reviews of a batch of important books. Very nice layout as well. (O-48t)

★★★★★

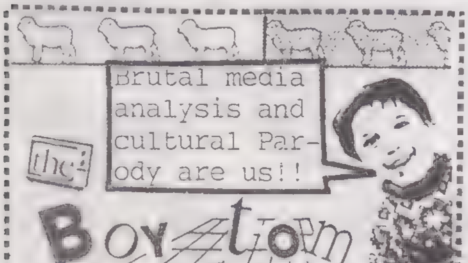
BOTTOM DRAWER ZINE #2 (50¢ from Greg, 3579 Via La Primavera, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360): The sort of spare zine of Greg, whose first product is **LOCAL ZINE**. This issue has some skate photos, a bit of collage, and a cheeky Western story, with a couple of false endings. (D-12)

★★★★★

BREAKTHROUGH! Vol. 5 #3 ($4 from Aardvark Enterprises, 204 Millbank Dr. SW, Calgary, AB, T2Y 2H9, CANADA): Edited by prolific poet J, Alvin Speers, this is self-announced as "The mini-magazine with Big Ideas". It's a mix of poetry, short stories, excerpts from Norman Vincent Peale, notes on getting rich, autobiographical material, and other odds and ends. Generally the writers are on the uplifting side of things; their guidelines note that "uncouth" material will not be accepted. (D-52)

★★★★★

BREITENBUSH NEWSLETTER Vol. VIII #1 ($4/yr from PO Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342): This is a combination course catalog and community paper. Breitenbush Hot Springs is an intentional community which hosts many New Age seminars, workshops and events, from "Opening to the Sacred Voice Within" to "Changing Woman". The newsletter announces and describes these and gives directions for registration. They also run articles on the business of living together; there's a nice piece on kitchen staff meetings in this issue. (S-32t)


Brutal media analysis and cultural Parody are us!!
the
Boy Town Newsletter
646 N. Laffayette Pk. Pl. #13
LOS ANGELES CA. 90026

★★★★★

□**THE BUFFALOON NEWSLETTER** Vol. IV #1 ($1 (?) from Raisin Blowme, 31 W. Northrop Pl., Buffalo, NY 14214): A mix of collage and reviewing. The former is manic in an almost SubGenial way, putting together lots of mainstream media images with words to make spiritual points The latter start from music but get into books and comics as well. Rather tongue in cheek. (S-12)

★★★★★

BURP NEWS Dec. 1989/Jan. 1990 ($10/yr from 19924 Apple Ridge Pl., Gaithersburg, MD 20879): Aimed at people in the Washington area who like beer, and like to make it at home. Brewers United for Real Potables is the full name of the group, and they get together to sample one another's creations on a frequent basis. The newsletter also has recipes, notes on pubs worth visiting, and more. (S-11)

★★★★★

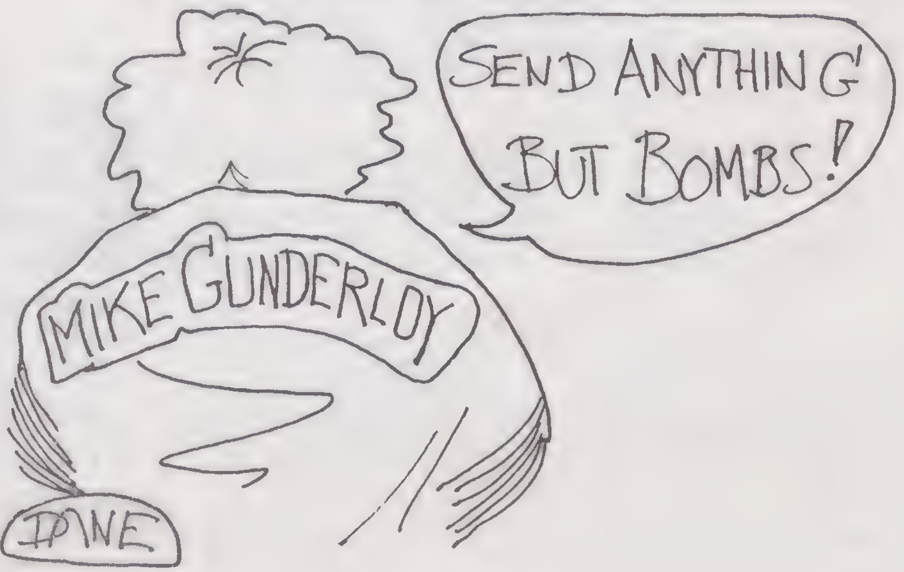
BVI-BLACK COFFEE #6 ($1 or "diner stories or anything on Mary Tyler Moore" from C. Goldberg, PO Box 6248, Albany, NY 12206-0248): The editor is recently returned from England, and brought back some clippings that prove the English are as confused as ever about we Colonials. A close-to-the-bone editorial leads off, and later there are other clippings about subjects as diverse as peace and how not to be a Tomboy. Lorraine Schein has a piece on the joys of being a slob, and Goldberg is looking for autobiographical pieces from other people, about events that shaped their lives. (D-16r)

★★★★★

BVI-CENTRAL Vol. 8 #7-8 ($1 from J. LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826): More personal writings and rantings from the prolific J. LeRoy. These two issues cover the implications of life beginning at conception, the scam of higher education, an anti-Stang rant, thoughts on open relationships, and lots of stuff thrown at George HW Bush. Plenty to chew on from a liberal who's not afraid to stand up and be counted. For another buck you can get **BVI-CENTRAL SPECIAL COLLECTIONS** I, a collection of the various playlets J. has published over the years. (D-20t)

★★★★★

CAMPUS REVIEW Vol. 5 #8-9 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16, Iowa City, IA 52240): This college-based paper finds itself consistently opposed to what they refer to at one point in this issue as "the socialist/homosexual/recycling coalition". In other words, their viewpoint is extremely conservative, as well as eloquent and well-argued. Local and national politics share their pages with more traditional collegiate concerns like music reviews. #9 has the conservative view on the Nicaraguan elections, which you may have missed if you read only politically correct media. (T-20t)



★★★★★

CANADADAPA #7 ($1 from Colin Hinz, 349 West St. N #3, Orillia, ONT, L3V 5E1, CANADA): A small amateur press association dedicated to Dada and other nonsensical art movements. Members contribute collage, or notes on proper use of the hectograph, or paper sacks with rubber stamping, or notes on the art strike, or any other darned thing. Colin says #8 will be his last issue, and he's looking to recruit someone to take over. (S-15)

★★★★★

THE CANADIAN WRESTLING REPORT Vol. 5 #4-5 ($5/6 issues from 15 Penrose Ave., Kitchener, ONT, N2A 1E9, CANADA): A pile of wrestling news from North of the border. #5 includes their predictions for 1990, as well as the usual reporting on matches and angles. (S-8)

★★★★★

CAN WE NEWSLETTER #39 (Donation from Citizens Against Nuclear Weapons and Extermination, PO Box 2152, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-1913): A short newsletter of notes about the local nuke industry (including the nuke engineering lab in state and the Hanford plant) and what's wrong with them lately. A useful source of the latest horror stories on food irradiation and plant contamination. (L-2)

★★★★★

THE CAPITAL DISTRICT COMPUTER MART Vol. 1 #7 ($2/4 issues from PO Box 402, Schenectady, NY 12301): This is a freebie locally, now also available by mail. In addition to the ads from area computer stores, they've got reviews (a couple of games in this issue) and feature articles. #7 takes a look at telecommunications, with an overview of the field and notes on some worrisome charges that Southwestern Bell is trying to sock sysops with. (T-12t)

★★★★★

CAPRA #81 ($2 from Marc Reed, PO Box 18293, Milwaukee, WI 53218): Membership is booming in this amateur press association devoted to discussing movies, so be prepared to wait a while if you send for a sample issue. And remember, apas are participatory, so be polite and only get in touch if you'd like to join the discussion, which ranges from silent movies to the latest releases. Our own Anni Ackner has recently started writing for **CAPRA**, adding yet another knowledgeable voice to what was already a prime roster. (S-117)

★★★★★

CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 9 #11-12 ($10/yr from Friends For Jamaica, PO Box 20392, Park West Finance Stn., New York, NY 10025): A newsletter which tracks primarily political news in the various countries of the Caribbean. The trial of the Grenada 17 remains one of their prime concerns, even if no one else seems to care that the US helped rig the evidence to convict a bunch of people. Guyana and Jamaica also come in for feature articles in this issue. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE CARING CONNECTION Vol. 5 #12-Vol. 6 #1 (Sample for SASE from Phyllis A. Burns, 3060 Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): Aimed at people caring for other people on a long-term basis, this one gives hope in a lot of little ways. Whether it's people finding that chronic pain can be licked or a program to get banks to make large-print statements available, each issue has plenty of ideas. They also print poetry from their disabled readers. (S-6)

★★★★★

THE CAROLINA CRITIC Dec. 1989 ($20/yr from 01 Steele Bldg., CB5100, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC 27599): "A Student Journal of News & Opinion" with a generally conservative bent. Unlike most of the new wave of student papers, it concentrates on large issues instead of local campus affairs. Pieces here look at environmentalism, foreign policy, abortion, drugs, and more. (S-32t)

★★★★★

□**CASA CRY** Vol. 16 #4 (Donation from 1131 N. 21st St., PO Box 05206, Milwaukee, WI 53205): Casa Maria is a Catholic Worker house in Milwaukee, where people live in voluntary poverty to help others even less fortunate. Their newsletter tells of successes and needs, and looks at some of the worst national social abuses as well. (L-2)

★★★★★

CATHARSIS #6 ($2 from PO Box 3181, Suffolk, VA 23434): Culture and counterculture from the Richmond area. They've got music reviews from Lunachicks to Neil Young, a photocopied sheet of enigmatic one-liners from Kyle Hogg, and suggested questions for an updated SAT. They also look at local radio and publish some comics making fun of Ann Landers. (T-16t)

★★★★★

CATHEDRAL OF INSANITY #10 ($2 from Julie Luce, 1216 W. Ivesbrook, Lancaster, CA 93534): An edgy little litzine, which maintains a strong personal touch—consider the handmade yarn binding on every issue, for example. In #10 John Grey updates the theme of "And then There Were None" with his "Down to 2" and Jay Williams entertains with a bizarre catalog of aquatic hallucinatory animals. (D-24r)

★★★★★

□**CATHOLIC AGITATOR** Vol. 19 #8 ($1/yr from 632 N. Brittania St., Los Angeles, CA 90033): Writings from people deeply committed to helping other people through the Catholic Worker network. This issue looks at industrialism and sees it as a major problem, arguing for a Green society instead before we destroy the planet entirely. There's also a page of info on CW activities in the LA area. (T-8t)

★★★★★

CAVEAT EMPTOR #20 ($4 from Cross-Country Communications, PO Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4533): A fine magazine that looks at UFOS and other paranormal things. Editor Gene Steinberg is notable for thinking that we don't have the answers yet, that there's no proof that abductions and sightings are caused by extraterrestrials—though he keeps in touch with this aspect of the field. #20 has the conclusion of an interview with Peter Kor, a look at "black magic" in the modern world in places like advertising and music, and an article on the possible survival of huge North American birds to the present time. (S-36t)

★★★★★

CEHSOIKOE #10 ($1 from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Est., IL 60194): This one has developed into a great little litmag over the years. This issue features a centerfold spread n Paul "White Boy" Weinman's attempt to torch a flag here in Albany. There's also a wonderful series of drawings from Joe Chiapetta and work from Oberc, Lainie Duro, John Bennett, and other topnotch writers. (D-4*)

★★★★★

CENSORSHIP NEWS #32 ($25/yr from NCAC, 2 W. 64th St., New York, NY 10023): The seasonal newsletter of the National Coalition Against Censorship, a group dedicated to upholding the First Amendment. I trust this will be as popular with zine editors as it is unpopular with those in power these days. They print short news bits on everything from prison regulations to flagburning amendments, and make some suggestions on what readers can do to help fight this nonsense. (S-8)

★★★★★

CENTRAL PARK #16 ($5 from PO Box 1446, New York, NY 10023): A litmag with both experimental and political overtones, done up in a large & impressive perfectbound package. It's difficult to pick favorites from among the challenging and exciting works here, but here's a few that struck me. Michael Lassell's "A Modest Proposal: Overtly Political" is one of the most heartfelt cries of rage I've seen in a long time. Joel Lewis's essay on the Home Shopping Network makes some interesting points, while Toni Simon's techno-collages seem deeper than many. There's plenty more fiction, essays, poetry and vizlature to choose from here. (S-219t)

★★★★★

□**THE CENTRIFUGITIVE** Vol. 2 #2 ($1.25 from PO Box 183, Brookline, MA 02146): This is sort of a literary political zine, or perhaps a political literary zine. They feature short stories and art, plus political commentary from a variegated leftist point of view. Sometimes these overlap, as in the poetry about Tianenmen Square. Also music reviews and a section on the downside of TV in this issue. (HL-24t)

★★★★★

CERES ORGANICS ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURE NEWS Dec. 1989 (Trial Subscription on request from PO Box 14338, Madison, WI 53714): A good source of information on what's going on in the organic agriculture industry, with some looks at agriculture as a whole. This issue includes a couple of pieces on BGH, the proposed new rules for organic certification in Wisconsin, and more on soil imprinting as a way to revitalize worn-out farmland. There's also a directory of organic and other unusual seed sources. (T-16t)

★★★★★

☐**CERTAINTY** #4 ($10 from Freepost, 85 West Ealing Broadway, London W13 9BR, UK): Edited in Amsterdam, this is one of the further-out sexual magazines to wend its way to the FF offices. The main thrust is towards S&M folks, especially those into leather and PVC, with pictures directed at their particular fetishes. There are letters from readers describing various outrageous experiences as well as articles on subjects like the sexual underground of Thailand. (D-70t)

★★★★★

CHANGING MEN #21 ($4.50 from 306 N. Brooks St., Madison, WI 53715): A magazine from a group of pro-feminist men who are concerned with helping other men face and deal with various problems, both in themselves and in society. There are pieces here on rape, on dealing with battering fathers, on grief and war, and more. They also print short fiction and poetry and review books in the field. A very caring, well-done publication. (S-48t)

★★★★★

CHAOTIC WORLD NEWS AND OLDS #22 ($1 from Pope George Ringo II, TESC, Bldg. D, Rm. 106, Olympia, WA 98505): A collection of Discordian and other rants and miscellaneous text pieces and graphics. They print a couple of slams at the Church of the SubGenius (including, but not limited to, the Bob Black review of **HWBM**), encourage strange fiction, review movies and zines and stuff, and generally do their best to confuse. A semi-organized look at one corner of the world. (S-22r)

★★★★★

☐**CHEERS** #1 ($3 (?) from NFCH, PO Box 9, Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480): The newsletter of the National Foundation for the Chemically Hypersensitive, a group working to help those who have strong bad reactions to various bits of modern life, including pesticides and petroleum products. The contents are a mix of news on legislative efforts to fund research and notes on the research already done. Their conclusion is that there is an immune system disorder at the root of the problem, and with proper support those suffering can be helped. (S-48)

★★★★★

CHOKEHOLD #16-17 ($1 from Lance LeVine, 3113 S. Parnell, Chicago, IL 60616): One of the snider wrestling bulletins around, which makes it pretty fun as well. #16 has the questions for Lance's annual poll, less stuffy than the usual "Wrestler of the Year" stuff. (S-10)

★★★★★

CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNISM CRUSADE Vol. 29 #23-24 (Donation from PO Box 890, Long Beach, CA 90801): This one has been running for a long, long time, accusing the Communists of being essentially the anti-Christ in disguise, and blaming them for everything from AIDS to crumbling moral standards. #23 even links them to the pro-choice lobby. (S-8t)

★★★★★

CHRISTIAN*NEW AGE QUARTERLY Vol. 2 #1 ($2.50 from Bethsheva's Concern, PO Box 276, Clifton, NJ 07011-0276): Editor Catherine Groves is trying to make this zine a way for New Agers and Christians—both of whom see Jesus Christ as very important—to conduct some useful dialogue. It seems to be working. This issue has a couple of pieces on Lent and some ideas on why different perceptions of Christ do not necessarily contradict one another. (HL-16)

★★★★★

CHRISTIAN VISION Jan. 1990 ($5/yr from Skysong Press, RR1 Washago, ONT, L0K 2B0, CANADA): A writer's market publication aimed specifically at the Christian author. While not all the markets here are explicitly Christian, they're all open to receiving Christian works. They do a good job of indicating who's looking for what, in and out of the small press, and manage to shoehorn in a short interview as well. (D-12t)

★★★★★

CINEMONDO #7 ($1 from 1100 Colquitt Ave. #5, Atlanta, GA 30307): A movie zine which focuses on "oppressed genres", but does more than just wall to wall reviews. This issue leads off with an interview with Whitley Streiber, and closes with column looking at surprises after the credits in various films. In between there's a good column on film zines and, yes, reviews. (S-24t)

★★★★★

CIRQUE DIVERS #113 (IRCs (?) from Antaki, 13, rue Roture, 4020 Liege, Liege 1, BELGIUM): An irreverent jaunt, **CIRQUE DIVERS** reproduces mailart, found pieces of cultural detritus and almost anything it stumbles across or produces (including an original crossword puzzle). Most of this is in French, with a smattering of Flemish and a few titles in English. This is an amusing little read of this apparently long-running monthly. (M-32)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

CIVIS REPORT Autumn 1989 ($15/yr from PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): Put out by an organization founded by Dr. Hans Ruesch, this presents the medical case against vivisection (namely that animal models tell us nothing about human health and sickness). It has some good arguments, though Ruesch tends to get mired in seeing everyone who disagrees with him as part of some vast conspiracy. Subscription includes **THE CIVIL ABOLITIONIST**, which focuses on news on interest to the anti-vivisection movement in the U.S. (A4-12t)

★★★★★

CLIPOPHILIA #6 (Large manila SASE from PO Box 5671, Portland, OR 97228): A collection of newspaper clippings from the legitimate press (no NATIONAL ENQUIRERS, please) but with an oddball spin to them. A few headlines from this issue: "Dirty Laundry Suspect", "Boy Decides to Zap Bugs, Burns House", and "Alleged Cheating at Ohio Fair Focuses Woes of 4-H Officials." It's a strange world we live in. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**CLUTTERED MIND** #1 ($4 from Pawnee Ribber, PO Box 255, Monticello, NY 12701): Pawnee is fascinated with fringe culture and past popular culture, and this is a vehicle for him to share his fascination. He writes of classic radio shows, of a group of elusive "tapists" that he's involved with, and of interesting things in the marginal press. There are excerpts from the writings of Tom Ratkov and Torky Koenings here, as well as aggressive comics and other odds and ends. (S-30r)

★★★★★

COALITION FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS NEWSLETTER Vol. 14 #11-12 (Donation from PO Box 1911, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1911): A monthly look into the seedier side of the nation's prison system, with plenty of letters from behind the walls. They document repression all over, from political lockdowns to inmates being refused their paltry pay for work. #11 reports the depressing news that as of the end of 1989, we passed the million mark for the number of people behind bars in this country. (HL-8)

★★★★★

COLD #2 ($2 *CASH* from R. Wherever, 11 Bayberry Ln., Cohasset, MA 02025): This one splits neatly into two sections. The first is a collage of art and info from the margins, with sabotage tips, comics, cyberpunk, hippie graphics, apocalyptic ranting, and more. The second chunk is a resource guide, with lots of reviews, some of

Christian * New Age Quarterly
A bridge supporting dialogue

Sparkling Articles, Lively Letters
"Ask Angeln" advice/info corner
A Pensive Pause, & more!

1 yr. sub.: $9.50 Sample: $2.50
For free info, send SASE

P.O. Box 276 Clifton, New Jersey 07011

things you've seen here, some not. The range goes from survivalism to garlic growers. A good package for the fringe-watcher. (HS-60)

★★★★★

COLTSFOOT Vol. X #6 ($2 from James Troy, Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): A reader-written newsletter about the virtues of wild plants. For some reason I found this issue, with its articles on mallows, cabbage and mustards, more delightful than usual. Charles Martin, Sr., provides some rules of thumb for distinguishing poisonous plants from edible ones in case of desparation, and the letters provide a use for cattail fluff. (D-24r)

★★★★★

COLUMBIANA Vol. 3 #3 ($8/4 issues from Chesaw Rte. Box 83F, Oroville, WA 98844): A fine issue of this bioregional publication for those living around the Columbia River. It includes an interview with Katya Komisaruk and associated material on the Nuremberg Principles and jury nullification, more on forest management and clearcutting and its alternatives, and notes on a planned road in British Columbia which threatens a native burial site. They carry plenty of local news bits and also look outward at global ties. Good reading. (S-64t)

★★★★★

COMBAT SPORTS #118 ($2 from PO Box 651, Gracie Stn., New York, NY 10028-0011): A wrestling newsletter that branches out to cover other similar bits of sports entertainment—most recently, the various attempts to revive roller derby. It's a mix of gossip and insider commentary, concentrating on the personalities involved. They'll also sell you videotapes, Dusty Rhodes bandannas, and other merchandise. Publisher Michael O'Hara also puts out the weekly **COMBAT SPORTSGRAM**, with late-breaking news bits, and available for 60¢. (S-16)

★★★★★

□**COMMON SENSE** #9 ($10/4 issues from Edson Blodgett, PO Box 953, Rosamond, CA 93560): Published by Soundthing, a MENSA Special Interest Group, this is a home for essays and thoughts that are (the editor hopes) deeper than usual. This issue is a bit uneven, and the main focus seems to be on religion, from the justification for tithing to whether Scientology helps anyone. I found the selections more bite-sized than deep. Future issues promise consideration of various social problems. (S-12)

★★★★★

COMMUNITY Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($25/yr from PO Box 131, Albany, NY 12201): The newsletter of the Capital District Lesbian and Gay Community Center, this one features mostly local news and reviews. They also do some longer articles on things like changing images of homosexuality, and print gay rights news from around the country. The January issue features an interview with Keith St. John, a gay activist recently elected to the Albany Common Council. (S-8t)

★★★★★

COMPOST MODERN LIFE #3 (One 25¢ stamp from Sean Wolf Hill, 2730 Monroe-Concord Rd., Troy, OH 45373): This newsletter is aimed at those seeking a simpler life, offering a mix of helpful hints and general philosophizing with an environmental bent. #3 has an article on the advantages of home birth and another on guarding against information overload. The decline of society and the EPA's stupidity are also touched on at length. (S-4r)

★★★★★

COMPOST NEWSLETTER Yule 1989 ($2 from *CHECK/MO* from Valerie Walker [write "for CNL" on check], 729 5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): A neo-pagan journal that at times seems to wallow in being politically incorrect, as with Brent Gilman's column blasting the womyn-only orientation of Wicca and the bondage outfits pitched at Gardnerians in this issue. There's also ideas and rituals for celebrating Yule, and some other excerpts from the Compost Coven's Disk of Shadows. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**CONCEPT** #1 (75¢ from Darin Bauer, 464 Tharp Ave., Moraga, CA 94556): This one is bubbling over in a lot of directions all at once; it's almost like a cross-section of the zine scene. There are some essays on anarchy and anarchists, a short skateboard story, movie, music and zine reviews, and some poetry. They also tuck in amusing clippings and comics. (D-20)

★★★★★

□**CONCERNED CITIZENS NEWS** Dec. 1989 ($2 from 3310 W. Swain Rd., Stockton, CA 95209): This one is basically a compilation of writings on how corrupt Pennsylvania in general and Pittsburgh in particular are. They have libelous things to say about various judges and officials, tell lurid tales of forced lesbian sex and ritual child murder, and so on. I'd be careful of believing much here; they claim a circulation over 5000 and yet this is a carbon copy, not a printed zine. (S-20)

★★★★★

□**CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE REVIVAL NEWS** Vol. 10 #28 ($10/yr from PO box 573, Abilene, KS 67410): This one is apparently a straight religious networking newsletter, but thanks to an amateurish production job it looks more like a fanzine. They appear to preach some relatively middle-of-the-road version of Christianity. They appear to ordain ministers for a relatively small donation. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE CONNECTION #162 ($2.50 from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): An apa for feisty libertarian, anarchist, conservative and just plain ornery types. They discuss taxes, drugs, armageddon, living in the wild, investing and quantum mechanics in fierce, argumentative, often pseudonymous submissions. I find it fun reading, but don't have the stamina to participate these days. If you have an idea you want to try to defend against astute comers, though, this is the place. (D-108r)

★★★★★

CON NEWS Vol. 1 #12 ($12/yr from 7735 Osceola St., Westminster, CO 80030): A tabloid for people interested in science fiction conventions. While their convention listing is less exhaustive than that in the **SF CONVENTION REGISTER**, they make up for it with more feature articles and convention reviews. #12 has a continued report on Gen Con '89 and more on writing a contract with a hotel. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE CONTROVERSY CHRONICLE Vol. 4 #2 ($2 (?) from Nathaniel-M. Naske, PO Box 80721, Fairbanks, AK 99708): A very alternative school paper from up Alaska way. This issue is filled with all sorts of wild and wooly stuff from the margins: a conspiracy at Disneyland, firsthand reporting from the Exxon oil spill, Nazis in your home town, Majestic 12, and lots else. Some of the printing is a bit marginal, but overall this is great stuff—a zine that spits in the faces of its elders and dares them to make something of it. (S-28t)

★★★★★

CONVERGING PATHS Winter Solstice 1989 ($4 from PO Box 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): A pagan journal that covers a lot of ground, linking together diverse parts of the pagan world. This issue looks back to the cave paintings at Lascaux and what they can tell us, has a (perhaps justifiably) defensive article about being a pagan in the military, and several pieces discussing gender and polarity. Quite chewy reading, with worthwhile articles in every issue. (S-33)

★★★★★

COSMEP NEWSLETTER Vol. 21 #3 ($50/yr from PO Box 703, San Francisco, CA 94101): The Committee of Small Magazine Editors and Publishers is a non-profit group for the traditional small press—folks who are publishing and want to make some money on it, as a first approximation. Most of what you'll find in the newsletter is marketing and legal advice, from how to deal with bingo cards to instructions on having your book titles exhibited in the COSMEP booth at major conventions. (S-8t)

★★★★★

CRAMPED AND WET VI ($1 from 314 George, Sioux City, IA 51103): This time around Kidd Smiley provides mostly zine reviews, lots of them and well done at that. There's also a couple pages of words overheard in real life and a great poem by John McKinley on drifting away from punk and into being a more staid person. Check out the interview with the ten year old kids too. (D-24r)

★★★★★

CRAWL OR DIE Vol. 5 #11 (SASE from Scott Miller, PO Box 8531, Salem, MA 01971-8531): This pop culture zine has rounded up a batch of stuff to commemorate the end of the 80s, while eschewing all the nostalgia that's already popping up. The most unique page is the one where Scott writes comparative reviews of a bunch of sleazy trading cards. Also lots of zine reviews and a few records, plus bits of art and clippings. (S-4r)

★★★★★

CRITICAL WAVE #14 ($10/yr from Tom Hanlon, 1307 Seaboard, Baton Rouge, LA 70810-6062): A collection of news fro the science fiction fan scene, mainly British but with some attention to the rest of the world. They review conventions and books and fanzines, publish longer critical works, prints bits of fan gossip and generally act as a bit of glue for this community. Hanlon is the US agent; the editors are Steve Green and Martin Tudor. (A4-24r)

★★★★★

CRYONICS Vol. 10 #11-Vol. 11 #1 ($2.50 from 12327 Doherty St., Riverside, CA 92503): The newsletter of the Alcor Life Extension Foundation, one of the more aggressive cryonics groups around. Each issue is a mix of news, medical research, and legal notes; #12 gives a quick overview of the various lawsuits they're involved in trying to preserve our right to "die" as we will. #1 reports on the First Foresight Conference on Nanotechnology, which many cryonicists see as a great hope for the future of medicine. (HL-40t)

★★★★★

CULTWATCH RESPONSE Vol. 2 #1 ($2 from PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1842): CWR is an organization of pagans and Wiccans trying to counteract the disinformation being bandied about these days about some sort of international Satanic conspiracy. They talk primarily with and to law enforcement personnel, pointing out the exaggerations and lies in many "cult survivors" stories and quoting officials who urge restraint and skepticism. Vital work and probably risky for the publishers. (HL-11t)

★★★★★

C-VILLE REVIEW Vol. 1 #5-6 ($25/26 issues & a t-shirt from PO Box 565, Charlottesville, VA 22902): A community tabloid that's free around Charlottesville. Besides the usual calendar and ads and film reviews, #5 has a piece on local litmag **TIMBUKTU**. They also have the good taste to carry Chuck Shepherd's "News of the Weird" column. (T-24t)

★★★★★

DADDY #2 ($6 from The Ganymede Press, PO Box 5325, Harrisburg, PA 17110-5325): This is a gay publication for Daddies & Sons of all ages. It includes explicit fiction, photos and drawings, as well as some ruminations on this type of relationship and personal ads. There's a good free speech editorial in this issue, and the whole is exceptionally professional. (D-64t)

★★★★★

DAILY IMPULSE Vol. 5 #7-8 ($1 from PO Box 90312, San Diego, CA 92109): An anarchist broadside with a poster ("George Bush: Vegetable or Noxious Weed?" on #7) and fine print on the other. With #7 they finish a series on tourism and start considering the question of rent, which continues in #8. #8 also has some notes on the local music scene and other goings-on. (O-2r)

★★★★★

THE DARTMOUTH REVIEW Vol. 10 #1 ($25/yr from PO Box 343, Hanover, NH 03755): This conservative college paper is currently involved in an all-out war with the Dartmouth administration. The paper wants to keep the old college song ("Men of Dartmouth") and the traditional Dartmouth Indian; the administration is dedicated to getting rid of both. Meanwhile there are notes here for freshmen on which professors to avoid (watch out for those feminists!) and a guide to the traditions which they claim are vanishing unnecessarily. (T-16t)

★★★★★

□**THE DAVID THOMAS ROBERTS BROADSIDE** #1 (45¢ SASE from PO Box 5243, Kreole Stn., Moss Point, MS 39563): A collection of art and writing from David, who is also working on **THE STREETFIGHTING AESTHETE**. This introductory issue features an erotic poem and reproductions of some of Roberts' postmodern primitivist wild artworks. (S-5)

★★★★★

DECALCOMANIA #70 ($1.25 from Mark Strickert, 3852 N. Oconto, Chicago, IL 60634): This is a club for collectors of radio station promotional items and "airchecks"—recordings of the station ID and other format information. They keep track of new promo items, give out tips on stations worth listening to, and generally trade information about their hobby. (S-12r)

★★★★★

THE DECADENT WORKER #162-166 ($1/4 issues from Packrat Press, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): A wall newspaper published by Kerry Thornley, long-time Discordian and **FF** columnist. He prints a medley of stuff, from the thoughts of Mao to corrections of misinformation about the Kennedy assassination, from the link between rent and starvation to the possible clairvoyance of one of Hitler's generals. A peek into the wild world of conspiracies. (S-1)

★★★★★

THE DEFENSE MONITOR Vol. XVIII #7-8 ($1 from CDI, 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005): The Center for Defense Information takes an anti-Cold Warrior but sort of realist stand about things. They believe in vastly reducing our military but certainly not in eliminating it completely. Written for the policy community, this is full of foreign affairs arguments and charts showing proposed force reductions. (S-8t)

★★★★★

DEPROGRAM #3 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from PO Box 4542, Seattle, WA 98104): A selection of reprints with an alternative/anarchist slant. There's a piece on burning the black flag, a rant about the domination of cable TV, and some animal rights stuff that perhaps crosses the line to the unethical side. Plenty more is crammed and collaged in here, and it will probably make you think in a few spots. (S-14)

★★★★★

□**DE SAAIE** (IRCs from Postbus 61012, 1005 HA Amsterdam, NETHERLANDS): This one appears to cover a lot of bases from the marginal side of social theory. There's a text from Karen Eliot, a portion of Bucky Fuller's **OPERATING MANUAL FOR SPACESHIP EARTH**, and Bob Black's review of Hakim Bey's book on Chaos and Ontological Anarchism. All of this, though, is in Dutch, making it somewhat less useful to most of my readers. (A4-24t)

★★★★★

DETECTIVE STORY MAGAZINE #7 ($4 from Gryphon Publications, PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228-0209): An heir to the old pulp tradition, with mostly very traditional mysteries and adventure stories. Richard Lupoff contributes "Triptych", a tale of a murderous triangle that moves along quickly. Ernest Leong's "The Emperor's Treasure" is perhaps a bit too concerned to be inscrutably Chinese in its setting, but is a good read nonetheless. Herbert Resnicow and Peter Winkler also have fine stories here. (D-55r)

★★★★★

□**DEVACHAN** #1 ($15/4 issues from Lynne Parcells, 1310 Sussex St., Portage, MI 49002-2625): Formerly **THE INSOMNIAC**, this one had changed more than name. Now it's still a forum for freewheeling discussion between MENSAns—on any subject *except* MENSA politics. Nowadays it's cinema, the war between the sexes, satirical news stories, and other goodies, but part of the old spirit is missing. (HL-52t)

★★★★★

DHARMA COMBAT #8-9 ($$3 from Keith, PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433): An open forum for the discussion of metaphysics, religion, spirituality, and other matters. Other matters are rather prominent in these two issues, including lots of conspiracy theory stuff. #8 has a big section on those aliens the government has stashed away, and a response from Stang to Bob Black. #9 includes Dai Giree's version of "Jeshua's Own Story". Pretty far-out stuff. (D-80r)

★★★★★

□**DHARMA SANGHA** Winter 1989-90 (SASE *and* "an attractive loose 1st class stamp" from Santa Fe Zen Center, 1404 Cerro Gordo Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87501): A small Zen newsletter which leads off with a lesson from Richard Baker-roshi on the Zen way of understanding the Perfections. This is followed by various bits of zendo business and a cool poem by Miriam Sagan. (S-6t)

★★★★★

□**DIALOGUE** Vol. 2 #2 ($18/4 issues from PO Box 542, Newcomb Hall Stn., Charlottesville, VA 22904): A "magazine of international affairs" pitched at the intelligent layman. I'm impressed by how well organized it is. This issue is all about Japan, and starts out with short bits of basic background—a look at the Japanese constitution, the basics of MITI—before proceeding to more substantive articles. I certainly learned things about the trade imbalance that I didn't know before. (S-40t)

★★★★★

DIARIST'S JOURNAL #24-25 ($2.50 from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): All you ever wanted to know about the wide world of diaries, journals, and other personal records. It's primarily excerpts from regular folks' regular writing, though there's also some attention to famous folks (like Lady Bird Johnson in #24). Articles look at things like food in Pepys and Shelley A. Barre does a regular column for writers. #25 gets topical for a few pages with San Francisco earthquake journal entries. (T-20t)

★★★★★

DIRIMENTED CATGUT #8 ("Gifts, stamps, or cool road signs" from Katrina Kelly, PO Box 557, 18 Taylor Ave., Earlville, NY 13332): The zine with the ever-changing name is back with more low-key literary efforts. There's a weird story about a dead racoon, Graham Trievel's column on cereals, and a back cover of graffiti and notes. Katrina asks that you not put the zine name on the envelope. (S-6)

★★★★★

DISCUSSION BULLETIN #38-39 ($3/6 issues from PO Box 1564, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): A forum for political discussion among members of a variety of rather obscure left tendencies, from DeLeonism to other forms of somewhat anarchist socialism to Wobblies to anarcho-communists. #38 contains some recruiting pamphlets and various arguments over fine points of history and ideology. #39 has a proposal for dialogue between DeLeonists and Greens and some nasty words about the new continental anarchist newspaper project. (HL-24)

★★★★★

DOOR NO. 3 Vol. 1 #3 ($8/4 issues from PO Box 598, Brookline, MA 02146): A tabloid with a little bit of everything in it. There's a spread of collage, an interview with a young member of the John Birch Society, a history of exploitation films, and poetry here. There's also a New Orleans travelogue and a bit of movie reviewing. A good mix. (T-16t)

★★★★★

DOPPELGANGER #11 ($3.85 from Jamie Meyers, 50-B Union Ave., Little Falls, NJ 07424): A collection of "nasty" stories and poetry—though I might use "icky" as a more apt description of some of these. There are Lovecraftian goodies, improbable phobias (Ken Wiseman's "Red Vengeance" does a nice job of playing with good news/bad news tension), and just plain revolting ideas (Sandy Waldron's "Georgia"). Outre poetry compliments the deliciously upsetting prose. (D-58r)

★★★★★

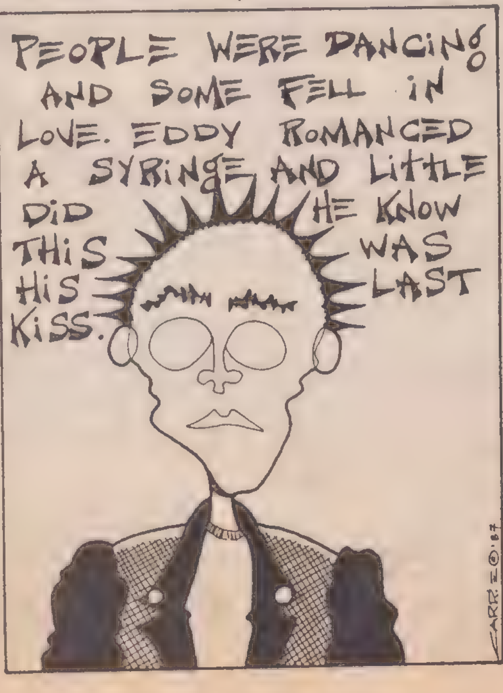
THE DOVETAIL Vol. IV #2 (Donation from Vern Bodkin, Azalea House, 30 Mariner St., Buffalo, NY 14201): Peace and Social Justice news that seems to be centered around SUNY-Buffalo. They're especially strong on Central American updates. Letters, vivisection and bovine growth hormone also show up in this issue. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

THE DOWNTRODDEN Vol. 2 #1 (1 stamp from Bill Lengeman, 193 S. Railroad St., Hummelstown, PA 17036): Human rights news from around the world, collated from a variety of sources. This issue examines the situation in Cambodia and the various amnesties for military crimes granted in South America recently. It's also got an extensive, though unannotated, list of contact addresses for human rights, peace and environmental groups. (S-4)

★★★★★

DR #63 ($1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27717): Arthur's personalzine is back with a new name but the same initials—or rather, the initials are now the name itself. He writes of grad school in Library Science, attending SF conventions, reading fanzines and books, football, computer programming, and the other bits that make up his life. Witty and literate, and proof that good things come out of the SF fan community. (S-14t)



★★★★★

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY Vol. IX #11 ($2 from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): A well-done run-down of current mystery (and occasionally adventure or other related genres) books. #11 is the holiday issue, with recommendations on mystery gift-giving from a batch of authors in the field and a look at new things out on video. (S-20t)

★★★★★

□**DUKKHA.37** (50¢ & a stamp from 5887 Lincoln Ave., Ontario, NY 14519): Surreal xerographic art with bits of text, some swiped from other sources, some forming sort of minimalist poems, some closer to language poetry and other experimental genres. The overall tone is very dark, with bits of life amongst the creeping static. (D-12)

★★★★★

DUMARS REVIEWS #6 ($2 from Terata Publications, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): Short reviews by Denise Dumars, Todd Mecklem and Ralph Vaughan of books, movies, television, small press items, stores and other things. They pick things they like and use this space to promote them, rather than reviewing everything—in particular, unsolicited items are *not* reviewed. I generally think they have pretty good taste about what they choose to feature. (D-24)

★★★★★

□**DUMPSTER TIMES** #3-4 ($1 from Wanda S. Duck, PO Box 80083, Akron, OH 44308): A collection of drawings and writings on everything from anarchy to the Kinks. #4 is the "Post-Modern Death" issue, with various writers trying to figure out what postmodernism is, writing about postmodern sex, and otherwise having fun. Lots of unexpected surpises lurking in the pages here. (HL-20)

★★★★★

THE DUPLEX PLANET #102-103 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): Editor David Greenberger is still active interviewing the residents and denizens of various nursing homes and elderly center. He doesn't ask them ordinary questions—rather, this is stuff like "How did Chinese food become so popular in America?" The answers are often charming and frequently outrageously surprising. Personality is not dead. (D-12)

★★★★★

□**EACH LEAF FEELS** #1 ($1 (?) from BobEE, 4930 Pershing, St. Louis, MO 63108): A rather personal journal of anarchy and opposition to the system in general. BobEE believes that demolishing history is the key to anarchy and he may be right. Other concerns include reasons to boycott fast food joints and the shape of our domination over nature. A bit scattered and non-linear but thought-provoking. (M-20r)

★★★★★

□**EARTHDOG NEWS** Vol. 1 #1 ($6/yr from Marie Mundaca, Snevil Books, PO Box 16430, Jersey City, NJ 07306): "The official publication of *Club Fred*, the Fred Norris Fan Club"". Beyond that, I have no idea at all what this is about; reading apparently fictitious gossip about some person I do not know pales quickly. And the Kurt Waldheim jokes & cartoons are beyond the bounds of good taste. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ECOMEDIA #64-66 (Donation from PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N9, CANADA): A biweekly anarchist publication with a Canadian focus but coverage of international affairs as well. Native peoples and women's issues are featured prominently in #65. #66 has a chunk of news on Nazi skinheads in Canada. (HL-4t)

★★★★★

□**THE EDGE** Vol. 1 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 3223, Madison, WI 53704): A new political paper that says it wants to promote "informed divergence", though at least in this first issue they're pretty thoroughly liberal (with perhaps some radical seasoning). Topics include abortion, world affairs, and a local neighborhood that's been getting bad press. (T-12t)

★★★★★

□**EGGHEAD, or "HOW I CHANGED THE WORLD"** #3 ($2 (?) from PO Box 33393, San Diego, CA 92103): A zine of political and social alternatives, from avoiding companies that test on animals to Elliot Cantsin's pocket history of art movements. Ace Backwords has an essay on homelessness (as a former street person, he has some expertise), and there's also interviews with a couple of musicians including Masters of the Obvious. A real medley, but it holds together pretty well. (S-30r)

★★★★★

THE EMERALD PATH #4-5 ($2 from GreenSheep, PO Box 1353, Placentia, CA 92670): A New Age newsletter with varied interests including channeling, astrology, and Tarot. #4 includes an interesting article asking for openmindedness, written by Catherine Groves from **CHRISTIAN*NEW AGE QUARTERLY**. In #5 Emerald Forrest explains what channeling feels like from the channel's point of view. (S-12t)

★★★★★

ENDEAVOR Vol. 1 #2 ($9/6 issues from PO Box 23511, Houston, TX 77228-3511): This is a prison support journal with a difference—it's put together by men on Death Row in Texas, with the support of the War Resisters League and other outside groups. This issue explains why they're on a rotating hunger strike, and offers much insight into the inhumane way we treat these prisoners even before we kill them. Blunt and scary. (T-8r)

★★★★★

ENDLESS STRUGGLE #11 ($1 from PO Box 69601, Stn. K, Vancouver, BC, V5K 4W7, CANADA): An anarchist journal with an explicitly revolutionary (violent if and as necessary) internationalist perspective. They're one of the more astute voices from the newer action-oriented sector of the movement. #11 includes notes on the DOA at the San Francisco gathering, as well as news from Holland, West Germany, Mexico and elsewhere. (S-20t)

★★★★★

END TIMES PROPHECY NEWSLETTER Vol. 4 #9 (Donation from PO Box 81526, Las Vegas, NV 89180): Apparently some people never learn. With the last trump not having blown on Rosh Hashanah, 1988, as was previously predicted, these folks have announced a new timetable for the end of the world. The second coming is now scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 1998, with the last Trump seven years before, which means we'll be into the time of tribulations soon. Stay tuned. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

□**LIVING LIKE FISH** Vol. 4 #4 ($10/yr from Breakfast Communications Corporation, PO Box 176, Paoli, PA 19301): A newsletter for "people establishign the aquatic age", this one manages to be tongue in cheek while still reviewing music and otherwise discussing entertainment. This issue looks at some of the changes in the last decade and what they might mean. (S-4t)

★★★★★

ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVES Vol. II #3 ($5/yr from SECS, 1001 S. Wright St., Champaign, IL 61820): Students for Environmental Concerns is a student group at Illinois State University which does a pretty good job of both preaching and practicing—among other things, the newsletter is on recycled paper. They discuss local activities designed to ease the strain on the Earth as well as national and international news. This issue looks at global warming and the viability of photovoltaic power. (S-20t)

★★★★★

EOTU Oct. 1989 ($4 from 1810 W. State #115, Boise, ID 83702): This experimental litmag goes with a theme each issue, and for this one that theme is "Ravaged Innocence". This results in a more gruesome than usual selection, with "The Altar Boy" by Vincent Negri and "The Rape of Margie Dell" by Jeffery Lewis standing out as especially gross. Whatever they're doing, the mix of typestyles and careful choice of art always makes **EOTU** look good. (D-76t)

★★★★★

□**EPOCA UPDATE** Winter 1989 ($25/yr from APOCA/Earth Island, 300 Broadway #28, San Francisco, CA 94133): This one tells about the efforts of the Environmental Project On Central America, a group which is trying to counteract some of the negative effects of US intervention in the area while helping the environment. The lead article is on the recent Fourth Biennial Congress on the Fate and Hope of the Earth, held in Managua. (S-8t)

★★★★★

EQUAL TIME #200/201 ($30/yr from Star of the North Publishing Co., 711 W. Lake St. #505, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A special end of the decade double issue for this fat paper for lesbians and gay men. They cover political, social and medical news, with a local focus but enough national stories to make this an attractive paper for those out of the area. Generally very progressive, and willing to tackle tough issues when the need arises. (T-36t)

★★★★★

ERC NEWSLETTER Dec. 1989 ($10/yr from PO Box 81, Floyd, VA 24091): The Educational Resource Cooperative is a group of folks in Floyd who come together by mail and in person to build a better and more fun community. This issue has poetry, plans for a flea trap, news of the LETSysytem in town, and a calendar of local events. Friendly stuff. (S-10)

★★★★★

EROSPIRIT Vol. 4 #8 ($4.50 from Julian Spalding, PO Box 35160, Albuquerque, NM 87176): Julian followed on the Harmonic Convergence to make this a forum for New Age issues. Lately, though, he's discovered another Truth: multi-level marketing is the key to the "Ring of Empowerment". It's sort of a strange marriage, libertarianism and the New Age. Meanwhile, all the usual astrology and Big Events and stuff are here as well. (S-24r)

★★★★★

THE ESSEMIAN WAY Vol. 9 #1 ($7 from SMC, PO Box 1407, San Francisco, CA 94101): The quarterly publication of the Service of Mankind Church, a group preaching (and practicing) "Tantric Shaktism". This spiritual path seems strongly related to female dominant S&M, although they assure people that there are differences. Much of the journal is fiction, attempting to outline the way of life they find to be correct. Members also write in with personal experiences in the service of women. (S-24t)

★★★★★

ETHEL THE AARDVARK #27 (A$12/yr from Melbourne Science Fiction Club, PO Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, Victoria 3005, AUSTRALIA): A clubzine (that is, a science fiction zine produced under the auspices of a particular club) from down under. They run heavily towards accounts of what's been happening lately, with con reports and meeting notes in every issue. They also track overseas fanzine production rather closely. Occasionally seems a bit lacking in direction, but never short on enthusiasm. (A4-24t)

★★★★★

EULIPIAN #5 ($2 from PO Box 61387, Seattle, WA 98121): Beautiful large-format computer-enhanced art and experioddica. A few underground regulars are creeping in now, with pieces from Geof Huth and Paul Weinman in this issue, as well as **FF** columnist Belka Stamas. Wild collage, multi-colored photocopy and unusual paper stocks are among the hallmarks of **EULIPIAN**, a magazine that *looks* different fro the mass but still great. (O-13t)

★★★★★

EUPHEMISMS ($65/4 issues from Norman Shapiro, PO Box 101, Brightwaters, NY 11718): For that price you get four handcrafted signed limited editions featuring Norman's multi-media homoerotic pornography. He moves back and forth from drawings to collages to the computer screen, investigating just what is art and what is pornography. There's no roadmap for the critic, but he's a sincere guy and this is sincere work. (D-12)

★★★★★

EUROPEAN TRASH CINEMA #6 ($6/12 issues from Craig Ledbetter, PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): A small zine of gore and horror and other b-movies which concentrates exclusively on imported European flicks. #6 has an article by Dale Pierce on the various faces behind this sort of cinema in Spain, plus the usual batch of reviews. (D-8r)

★★★★★

EVERYONE'S BACKYARD Vol. 7 #4 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): A networking journal from a group that coordinates campaigns against toxic waste and big polluters all over the country. This issue is mostly made up of excerpts from talks given at their recent annual convention, and has a list of literature available to activists for nominal fees. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**THE EXPLODING CAT** #1 (IRCs (?) from Sandi Tan, 11C Balmoral Road, 01-01 Eden Spring, Singapore 1025, SINGAPORE): A collection of humor, collage, and poetry. Highlights in this issue include directions for knitting a sweater for your pet fish, a colorful miniposter, and some bizarre short stories. The only zine I've ever seen from Singapore, and they want outside contacts. (S-20r)

★★★★★

EXTRA! Vol. 3 # 1 ($4 from FAIR, 130 W. 25th St., New York, NY 10001): Published by the group Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting, this one looks at the way the major media covers major stories...and often comes away disgusted. From the decline of CBS News to mere gossip to the perils of staged news stories to the labeling of Contra attacks as "Mr. Ortega's War", it's all here. The examination of CBS in this issue is particularly excellent. (S-16t)

★★★★★

☐**FANS OF HORROR** #8 ($2 from Joseph Olszewski Jr., 2802 Shelley Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19152): A horror fanzine that doesn't stick to a particular genre. Lots of stuff is reviewed here, from current movies to mass-market paperbacks to Lovecraft reprints. They also run short fiction, horrific art, and a reasonably long letter column. And if you're looking for Freddy Kreuger fans, you can find them through the ads here. (S-36)

★★★★★

THE FANTASY COLLECTOR #213 ($2 from Camille Cazedessus, Jr., 7080 Highland Rd./Bayou Fountaine, Baton Rouge, LA 70808): An "adzine" for folks who are into collecting SF and fantasy paperbacks and related items. Much of it consists of ads from folks who have things to sell, but there's also a few feature articles and a spread of pictures of old covers. (S-20)

★★★★★

☐**FANTASY FEDERATION** Vol. 1 #1 ($3/3 issues from Jeff Cohen, 50 Shelley Ln., Great Neck, NY 11023): This is for the frustrated booking agent that lurks inside of many wrestling fans. The idea is simple: they report on matches, just as any other wrestling newsletter does, but in this case the matches are fictitious. Readers are encouraged to send in accounts of their own fictional dream matches. (S-8r)

★★★★★

☐**FAR CORNER** (50¢ (?) from Obscure Research Labs, ASUC #131, Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94720): "A Newsletter and Journal of Obscure Datapaths" which is interested in all sorts of flaky stuff. This includes the MJ-12 UFO documents (a short bibliography is provided here) and the curing of miniature marshmallows to the consistency of those in Lucky Charms. (D-4)

★★★★★

FATAL VISIONS #6 ($16/4 issues from PO Box 133, Northcote 3070, AUSTRALIA): A wide-ranging film zine from down under. While the bulk of this focuses in on the usual b-movie/so-bad-it's-good/exploitation fare, they range from a review of *Batman* to a section on porn films and what's wrong with them. Reviews of Aussie movies and notes on censorship distinguish them from U.S. counterparts.(A4-24r)

★★★★★

FENRIR #8 (6 IRCs from Thormynd Press, PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire, UK): A Satanist journal—or at least one from somewhere on the left hand path—which has some strong ideas about how to go about things. #8 looks at the esoteric teachings of their group, which range from Alchemical ideas to complex instructions for a board game designed to teach holistic symbolic thinking. (A4-16)

★★★★★

☐**FERMENT** Vol. V #5-9 ($20/yr from Roy Lisker, 152 Kisor Rd., Highland, NY 12528): Although in the past Lisker has written about subjects as diverse as crackpots in physics, the flaws in Chomskian linguistics, and classical music, the current volume is devoted (following a trip to France) to French intellectual life. These five issues begin the serialization of "The quest for Alexander Grothendieck", a tale of wandering the country looking for a reclusive mathematician. Lisker's paragraphing tends to be idiosyncratic, but other than that his writing flows wonderfully; a true raconteur. In #9 he does a wonderful non-linear essay on the chances of actually selling some of this stuff. (HL-20r)

★★★★★

FESTERING BRAIN SORE #8 ($8.50/6 issues from David R. Williams, 249 Tremont St. #1, North Tonawanda, NY 14120): This little zine starts off from splatter movies and other cinematic marvels, but then gets much sleazier. Short fiction features sick sex, necrophilia, rape and murder. The comics are just as bad, if not worse. There's a short Kitten Natividad interview and a look at some of the films of Joe Christ in this issue. (S-26)

★★★★★

File 13
INDIE ROCK + CASSETTES + MORE
"Darned good music writing" -F55
Back issues $1 + Subs $5/yr (3iss.)
#4 - Survival Research Labs, Fire Party, Too Far
#5 - Killdozer, Audiofile, Alan Jenkins
Checks payable to Mark Lo
File 13, Box 175, Concord, MA 01742

The Event
The Event
The Event
The Event
The Event

Since 1981
THE FACTS and PICTURES OF NATURISM and NUDISM
The Event is a quality, photo-filled, informative East Coast magazine on clothes-optional living and recreation — a must for anyone interested in:
- the nude beaches movement
- nudist clubs, camps, resorts
- political and legal trends
- entertaining lifestyle articles and discussions
- photos from internationally renowned photographers
- advertisers offering valuable products and services
- travel Information
- and much, much more

A favorite among thousands of naturists and nudists, *The Event* (four issues per year) is only $16.
(In Canada add $6.00, overseas add $18.00)
The Event
PO Box 203-F, Pequannock, NJ 07440

FIFTH ESTATE Vol. 24 #3 ($5/yr from PO Box 02548, Detroit, MI 48201): Back after a bit of a breather with a giant-sized issue, FE is still leading the anarchist charge against the megamachine (as it's dubbed in one article in this issue). Their general tone is very critical or technology, and they continually look for a way to combine environmentalism and anarchism into a truly radical movement to save the earth and the people on it. Topics here include the ideology of oil spills, the '89 anarchist gathering, events in China and the most recent Earth First! Round River Rendezvous. Feisty and wonderful. (T-32t)

★★★★★

FILM

THEY WON'T STAY DEAD #7 ($1 from Brian Johnson, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): A zine of "odd video stuff" that chooses to focus on a few films each time rather than review everything in the local video store. In this issue, Dave Szurek dismembers "I Drink Your Blood" while the editor pukes over "Burial Ground". There's also a lighter feature on Cleveland's horror-show host "The Ghoul". (D-16r)

★★★★★

FILM THREAT #20-21 ($16/6 issues from PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068): One of the best (and most outrageous) of the zines devoted to weird movies. #20 is pretty close to an all-women issue, with pieces on Karen Carpenter, Lydia Lunch, Betty Page and Kitten Natividad anchoring it. Lots of photos (including Betty in bondage), letters, and no-holds-barred reviews of underground videos make this a winner. #21 has a fine piece on crazed Christmas films and a talk with Traci Lords as she tries to make it as a legitimate actress. (S-64t)

★★★★★

THE FINE LINE #4 ($1 from The Alliance. 826 Euclid Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210): The Alliance is a group of people, some among the many, who have been labeled at one time or another as mentally ill. They're organized for self-help and for opposition to a psychiatric system that still thinks electroshock is fine. Lots of first-hand accounts and shocking stories here, as well as hope for the future. (S-20)

★★★★★

☐**THE FLAMING AFFRO** #3 ($1 from 204 Elmhurst Dr., Chickasha, OK 73018): Well, it looks like this started life as a simple skatezine and then mutated. There are still photos of those daring young men (why no young women?) on their flying boards, but there's also short stories, collage art, a dictionary translating hickoid into English, and more. Wild and apparently full of in jokes. (D-36)

★★★★★

FLAMING SIN! #2 (50¢ from PO Box 726, University Stn., Syracuse, NY 13210): A collection of tabloid and other clippings, bits of religious tracts, and short fiction collaged together to make a mockery of the future. A lot of people aren't going to like seeing Elvis crucified on a swastika on the front cover here. (S-8t)

★★★★★

FLY Vol. II #2-4 ($20/yr from PO Box 5554, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1N7, CANADA): A magazine which comes on carefully typeset postcards, one per month. They tend to be enigmatic, on the fringes of mail art but with lyrical texts as well as pictures. "Driving" seems to be the theme of #2, or at least driving as a metaphor for getting through society. #3 dumps Christmas in favor of the industrial-strength Xma$; #4 opens the 90's with similar cynicism. Bathroom reading for those paralyzed with fear. (M-?t)

★★★★★

FNORD! #2 ($1.50 from Seth Tisue, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): "A revolting miasma of unrelieved perversion and desire", whatever *that's* supposed to mean. In practice, the zine opens up with a lot of work from the margins: poetry from John Bennett, Ed Lawrence's "Autopsy Turvy", Bob Black's snappy definitions, a parallel-structured poem by Geof Huth, and more. The back half is mainly reviews, which select a few items from the underground and hold them up for close scrutiny and deep critiques. (HL-44t)

★★★★★

FOCUS Vol. 4 #4/5/6 ($10 from The Fair-Witness Project Inc., 4219 W. Olive Ave. #247, Burbank, CA 91505): This is a UFO investigatory zine co-edited by William Moore, who is quite a controversial figure in Ufology these days. This special issue has the text of his Las Vegas speech, in which he revealed that he'd helped the Air Force out with some disinformation schemes in order to gain their confidence and locate real information. (S-20)

★★★★★

☐**FOREST VOICE** Vol. 1 #1 ($20/yr from Native Forest Council, PO Box 2171, Eugene, OR 97402): A special report on the state of America's National Forests. In case you didn't already know, big chunks of them are being clearcut and loaded on to ships bound for Japan. The pictures here are sickening, the text sobering. (T-12t)

★★★★★

FOSFAX #144-146 ($12/6 issues from Falls of the Ohio Science Fiction and Fantasy Association (FOSFA), PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281): This science fiction fanzine is suffering from a crisis of material: they're going bankrupt trying to print all the good stuff they receive. The main culprit is the letter column, with long missives from dozens of well-known fans and pros. In the article department, they run to reviews, whether these be of books or conventions. With #146, they've switched to a bimonthly schedule. (S-52r)

★★★★★

FRACTAL REPORT #5 ($23/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Reeves Telecommunications, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A newsletter for those reasonably skilled in programming who wish to explore computer images of the Mandelbrot set and its relatives. It's a shame that they don't have color printing, but even the monochrome screen dumps here are rather interesting. Languages used include C, Pascal, and Forth. (A4-20)

★★★★★

☐**FREE ASSOCIATION** Vol. II #1 ($1 (?) from Youth Against Militarism, c/o Friends for a Non-Violent World, 2025 Nicollet Ave. #203, Minneapolis, MN 55404): Writing by young people for young people about the possibility of a world without war. There are many familiar concerns here, including US intervention in Nicaragua and the behavior of the armed forces. But the #1 issue is military recruiting in the schools, and they do their best to emphasize that there are alternatives. (S-24t)

★★★★★

FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS #24 ($20/yr from ISIL, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229): This is the first issue of this Libertarian newsletter since the Society for Individual Liberty and the Libertarian International merged into the International Society for Individual Liberty. It looks pretty much as it always has (back when it was published by LI)—a mix of news and networking and outreach, all in bite-sized chunks, and ranging around the world. Some good information here, and plenty of ties to other freedom-centered groups. (S-17t)

★★★★★

THE FREEDOM WRITER Vol. 6 #5 (Donation from Simon, Porteous & Associates, Inc., PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): This newsletter examines the relations between church and state from the point of view of wanting the churches to stay out of politics. They comment on the more flamboyant personalities in the religious right and are in general a good source of news. Letters from readers also bring out good points. (S-4t)

★★★★★

THE FREEMAN Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 (On Request from 30 S. Broadway, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY 10533): A journal of free-market ideology and opinion. Typical articles in the January issue include "The Folly of Rent Control" and "The Investor as Hero". Most of the authors here would allow some role for government in the Good Society, but only a strictly limited one. (S-40t)

★★★★★

FROM THE MOUNTAIN Sept.-Oct. 1989 (Donation from PO Box 488, Byron, MI 48418): Put out by Robert Miles, this is one of the longest-running bits of far right literature I see these days. Miles generally avoids outright racist ranting (though from his endorsements of JB Stoner, the KKK, et al, it's clear where his ideas lie), preferring instead to emphasize solidarity among the Folk and the dangers of trusting the government. In this issue he indulges in some "If I Were King" daydreaming about his version of the just society. (S-12)

★★★★★

FROSTBITE FALLS FAR-FLUNG FLIER Vol. 4 #2 ($5/4 issues from Charles Ulrich, c/o Swick, 6002 Redondo Ct. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107): This newsletter is devoted to Rocky and Bullwinkle, Crusader Rabbit, and the other cartoon creations of Jay Ward. This being the first issue since Ward's recent death, much of the space is given over to his biography and accomplishments. There's also some Frostbite Falls trivia and a look at the Crusader Rabbit pilot. (S-14)

★★★★★

FUNHOUSE MIRROR #2-3 ($1 from 853 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. #203, Naples, FL 33942): A high school underground newspaper with a classic mix of silliness and nastiness. They pick on jocks and teachers, print greeting cards and centerfolds, encourage folks to get involved and generally seem to have a pretty good time. (S-16r)

★★★★★

□**FUNNY PAGES** #1 ($1 & SASE from 154 S. Hedges St., Dayton, OH 45403-2222): A collection of jokes, many of them unfit for polite company. In fact, whether it's obscene, sexist, racist, ablist or whatever type of humor that offends you, it's here. Just to set the tone, it starts out with a page each on the humorous value of a couple of dirty words. Should be a big success. (S-9)

★★★★★

FUSE Vol. XIII #1/2 ($15/5 issues from 183 Bathurst St., First Fl., Toronto, ONT, M5T 9Z9, CANADA): A magazine of arts criticism and opinion. #1/2 is a dounble issue, with reviews of experimental films, feminist videos, an exhibition of AIDS posters, performance art (including a ballet for trucks), and even (in a connection with the underground we've seen in **FF**) some work from Violence & The Sacred). Mostly Canadian-oriented, mostly professional/critical in tone. (S-64t)

★★★★★

□**THE GAIA REVIEW** Vol. 1 #1 ($3.50 from The Consortium for Gaia Development, PO Box 117, Peterborough, NH 03458): These folks are trying to put Lovelock's Gaia hypothesis on a firm scientific basis, startign with developing a new interdisciplinary scientific language based on QM ideas. The ideas they throw into the stew range from well-accepted (chaos theory) to utter poppycock (Sheldrake's "morphogenetic fields". Overall, they may well be making progress, though their inclusion of ritual and other subjectivities will inevitably alienate them from the scientific mainstream. (S-38t)

★★★★★

□**THE GAINESVILLE IGUANA** Vol. 4 #4 ($5-10/yr from CISPLA, PO Box 14712, Gainesville, FL 32604): A community calendar and magazine of peace and social justice issues. There's quite a bit on Latin America here, as well as a long piece on statehood for the District of Columbia and some opposition words from ex-CIA agent John Stockwell. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE GATE Jan. 1990 ($1.50 from PO Box 43518, Richmond Heights, OH 44143): A journal of Forteana—those strange and wonderful happenings in this world that don't quite fit in with the established theories of how things run. Telekinesis, circles in grain fields, recovered bits of UFOs; these are a few of the topics. Tends to be a bit low in source citations, but light and enjoyable reading. (S-16)

★★★★★

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS Vol. 17 #19-25 ($33/yr from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): National news and culture articles for a gay and lesbian audience. #22 has a good interview with the people behind the "Drawing the Line" lesbian photography exhibit. #24 includes thoughts about the 80s and the 90s from a whole bunch of community leaders. #25 reports on the AIDS activist demonstration that blocked the Rose Parade and some thoroughly homophobic actions by Jordan Marsh security guards. (T-16t)

★★★★★

GENII Vol. 53 #1-2 ($35/yr from PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036): A trade journal for the professional stage magician. They pass along the latest news and gossip about members of the profession, print instructions for new effects (from card tricks to grand illusions) and talk to masters of the craft. Siegfried and Roy are featured in #1; Irene Larsen of the Magic Castle in #2. (S-64t)

★★★★★

GNOSIS #14 ($5 from PO Box 14217, San Francisco, CA 94114-0217): This "Journal of the Western Inner Traditions" remains interesting and informative—although I'm not sure the information is always to be trusted. #14's theme is "The Dark Side", with Inanna's descent into hell, some European mystics with neo-fascist links, Hawaiian kahunas, and much more. The book reviews and letters are always worth reading, and the ads are getting nuttier with every issue, as the esoteric looney-tunes come out of the woodwork. Fortunately the editors are a level-headed bunch, so this serves as mere comic relief. (S-88t)

★★★★★

GOD IS AN ASSHOLE #6 ($1 (?) from S.M. Steppenwolf, 1901 7th St., Long Beach, CA 90813): A somewhat slapdash zine of alternative politics and ideas. There's lots of Earth First! stuff (pro and con, but mostly pro) in this issue, thoughts on recycling the campus paper, and scattered bits of anarchy. They've also got zine reviews and the latest pieces of the case against Ron Gould (lots of heat, but no documentation). (D-20r)

★★★★★

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH ME #2-3 (25¢ from 320 W. Oak #B, Greenville, IL 62246): An 11x17 collection of poetry, zine reviews, cartoons, and ranting. The contents generally seem to take a negative view of the world, but there's a lot of variation, and no clear editorial direction. Would make a nice poster at work if you want to confuse those you work with. #3 goes to a more standard zine layout instead of posterism. (O-2r/S-4r))

★★★★★

□**GOING DOWN SWINGING** #9 (A$8 from Myron Lysenko, PO Box 64 Coburg, Victoria 3058, AUSTRALIA): An impressive perfect-bound literary annual, featuring Australian writers. Whether a national style or just the editors' preferences, many of the stories and poems here seem to be searching at the roots of alienation with the system. If I had to pick one thing here I'd take Bob Engwerda's story "The Industrial Complex", a dystopian tale of a man slowly crushed by the job he is too naive even to hate. (D-124t)

★★★★★

GOING GAGA #5 (42 from Gareth Branwyn, 2630 Robert Walker Pl., Arlignton, VA 22207): This is the "Manifestos" issue of this zine of intellectual margins. It includes work from Dada and Cyberpunk, as well as currently-unknown movements. As an insert there's the mini-sized **A CHILD'S GUIDE TO DEMACHANIFESTOISM**, with words that flop back and forth from sentence to sentence. A din of movements, like an industrial noise band tuning up. (HL-24t)

★★★★★

□**GOLDENSEAL** Vol. 15 #4 ($12.50/yr from The Cultural Center, Capitol Complex, Charleston, WV 25305): "West Virginia Traditional Life" in a sligk magazine with lots of articles and pictures. Among the stories in this issue are the annual Smoot family reunion, the running of a cigar company, and the retirement of a man who ran a rural grocery store from the back of a large truck. Music, hams, missionaries and more. (S-72t)

★★★★★

G'RAFFITI Vol. II #12 ($5/12 issues from Camelopard Society, PO Box 16898, San Diego, CA 92116): The Camelopards are a society for high-IQ people to get together and have fun without a lot of bureaucratic structure. The magazine gives over a good deal of space to announcing their activities—they have a busy social schedule—but also lots of essays, generally on the humorous side. To join costs $18 and requires proof of 98th percentile IQ (S-24t)

★★★★★

□**GRAIN OF SALT** #5 ($15/yr from Delaware Valley Skeptics, 1426 Locust St. #36D, Philadelphia, PA 19102): The Delaware Valley Skeptics appear to be a regional offshoot of CSICOP, for folks who don't get enough debunking from the parent organizations. This issue will be of interest to pagans as well as hardheaded rationalists, as the main feature is an attack on the current belief in vast Satanic conspiracies. They also review what they've been up tot his year and poke hard at astrology. (T-4t)

★★★★★

GREEN ANARCHIST #22 (£8/10 issues from Box H, 34 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4, UK): A synthesis of anarchist and green ideas which is one of the best sources I see for the state of the movement in the British Isles. This issue has a special section on "The Green

And Black Economy", with a wide variety of points of view represented, and ideas which anyone can use to subvert capitalism. Nice letter column and anti-taxation poster as well. (A4-24t)

★★★★★

GREENHELL #10 ($1 from Jon Drucker, PO Box 6687, Albany, NY 12206-6687): The final issue of this sometimes-silly, sometimes-feisty tabloid (last I heard Jon still had plenty of copies for sale). Inside is more political ranting, Bob Black on the art strike,poetry, kidnappings by aliens, and a dead Romanian dictator. (T-12)

★★★★★

GREEN ISLANDS Vol. I #10-12 (Donation from PO Box 254, Ganges, BC, V0S 1E0, CANADA): This is a short green-oriented paper which tries to get facts and ideas out to the community at large. Their format is terse, which encourages people to read the whole thing. Short bits of environmental news are here together with ideas on what to do on both the community and household level. (L-2t)

★★★★★

GREEN MULTILOGUE Vol. 4 #5 ($6 from 390 Jones Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4J 3G3, CANADA): A forum for discussion between members of the Canadian Green Party and interested observers. It's not a discussion meant to settle anything, but an exploration of points of view. Topics include Party structure, sustainability, worldwide tactics and strategy, capitalism and feminism. (S-48)

★★★★★

GREEN SYNTHESIS #32 ($10/8 issues from LED, PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA 90733): This is one of the quasi-official newsletters of the US Greens, and a place where a lot of interesting debates are taking place. In this issue, various folks fro the Left Green Network defend themselves against charges that they're not really green enough, and the social ecology/deep ecology debate continues. They also feature Green news from around the world. (S-16t)

★★★★★

GRIND Vol. 2 #7-8 ($5/12 issues from Richard Green, PO Box 32, Old Bridge, NJ 08857): A monthly single-sheet of well-written movie reviews, tending towards the sort of stuff you see in splatterzines but without the same blood worship. #7 includes bits on True Love and the new version of Phantom of the Opera. #8 features Richard's best and worst ten lists for 1989. (S-2)

★★★★★

THE GRINDHOUSE JOURNAL #7 ($$1 from Vincent Basilicato, 159 McDole Rd., Ellenville, NY 12428): A small zine of strange movies that branches out a bit, from an Ellison book to a Holy Modal Rounders record to a comparison of Bewitched and I Dream of Jeannie. Vincent tells a horror story of a trip to a film convention, and packs in some reviews (of course). Dave Szurek does a column here as well. (D-28r)

★★★★★

GROINK! #2 ($1 from Satanburger Laboratories, PO Box 22605, Eugene, OR 97402): There seems to be some sort of elaborate fantasy/conspiracy world underlying this zine. It's a mad mix of artwork, ranting, transcriptions of conversation during its own layout, weird music and stickers. The principal perpetrator appears to be the mysterious Dr. Zen Buddha. Some flavor of SubGenius or Discordian propaganda, but definitely off in a world of its own. (S-20r)

★★★★★

GUIDELINES MAGAZINE Vol. II #4 ($15/yr from Susan Salaki, PO Box 608, Pittsburg, MO 65724): This one started out as a simple service to provide submission guidelines for various small press magazines from one central source. Susan still does that, but increasingly she publishes feature articles as well. #4 includes a look at poetry contests, some advice from a professional magazine designer, and ideas on writing for trade publications, among other things. (HL-32t)

★★★★★

HAPA #8 ($2 from Joe Singer, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): That two bucks suffices to open an account for this Helpful Amateur Publishers Association, but participation is required to get copies. We talk about everything from the significance of the small press to the best way to make corrections on mechanicals. Membership is small yet, so it doesn't take a lot of time to participate. (S-11)

★★★★★

HARVEST Vol. 10 #2 ($11/8 issues from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): With a recent computer upgrade, this pagan zine is looking better than ever. Their primary thrust is towards networking: they publish letters, ads, news clippings and reviews from all over. #2 includes some notes on working as a solitary and a comparison of 12-step programs with shamanism. (S-34t)

★★★★★

HAUNTS #17 ($3.50 from Nightshade Publications, PO Box 3342, Providence, RI 02906): A perfect-bound anthology of fantastic horror. Pamela Holbrook's "Jacky" is a story of modern horror with an unexpected twist at the end. Phil Proctor delivers "Azazel", an encounter with a supernatural being who ends up getting the better of the protagonist. Fourteen stories in all, most well-done, in a nice package. (D-96t)

★★★★★

HEADLINES #18 ($1 (?) from PO Box 5094, Winter Park, FL 32793-5094): A SubGenius periodical made up mainly of clippings from the major media, with disasters and severed heads predominating. "Bob" wanders in and out, and Ahmed Fishmonger supplies an instructionary comic in this issue. This will help the hard-core Bobbies survive while waiting for the long-promised **STARK FIST**. (S-12t)

★★★★★

HEADPUMP #14 ($1 (?) from PO Box 93, Bronx, NY 10461): Much of the material here is on the theme of **PLAYTHING**, a porno zine for horror fans with salacious prose that erupts in abominations and pin-ups with distorted anatomy. There's also some poetry and art off the theme, but still generally pretty dark. Malefic literature. (S-12)

★★★★★

□**HEATHEN ZINE** #1 (75¢ & Age Statement from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): This one is self-described as "the zine of revelating pissiness", with this first issue devoted to "Radical Faminism". Ken basically is against it, seeing it as a vehicle for women to hate men, and attacks with a bunch of words and images that will not make him many friends. He's also looking for work on the theme of "Battered women, the abuse dynamic, it takes two" for #2. (D-16)

★★★★★

HEAVEN BONE #7 ($4.50 from PO Box 486, Chester, NY 10918): A literary magazine that's fairly heavy on the poetry as compared to prose and essays, but manages to present a good selection of work. There are spiritual overtones in many of the pieces here—not morals, for the most part, but open-ended questions waiting to be asked and answered, as in Janine Pommy-Vega's story "The Woman Who Loved Mountains". Too many fine poets to list, but try Arguelles, Vassilakis, and Richey on for size. (S-56t)

★★★★★

□**THE HERICANE** Vol. 1 #3 ($12/12 issues from 250 Cowan Rd., Gulfport, MS 39507): A feminist newsletter trying to build a network between lesbians and other women in the south for the "educational empowerment of women". They're just getting started,but they're hard at work collecting addresses, information and stories from the Gulf Coast states. (S-16)

★★★★★

HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE QUARTERLY Winter 1990 (On Request from RR1, Box 400, Honesdale, PA 18431): This is mainly a course catalog and book catalog for the Himalayan Institute, a group which has taken Yoga teachings and brought them west to a resort/retreat setting. Founder Swami Rama gets a few pages of philosophy into each issue as well. (S-48t)

★★★★★

THE HIPOCRITE #3 ($1 from Clay, 2331 Poincianna, Huntsville, AL 35801): A collection of stories, poems, art and ravings from self-confessed confused adolescents. They seem to revel in gory art, silly jokes about people's English classes and fantasies of blood and revenge. Despite some censorship, they manage to print things to upset most any rational adult. (D-40)

★★★★★

HOLIDAY VIRBGIN Dec. 1989 (60¢ from 629 SW 6th #4, Corvallis, OR 97333): A collage of consumerism, analogies between Satan and Santa, medical cut-ups, religious tracts on sin, and other unlikely things—such as a page of very nasty music reviews. Both mass and underground culture seem to be under attack here, although the complaints are not perfectly clear. (M-12)

★★★★★

☐**THE HOLOGRAPHIC HOOLIGAN** Vol. 0 #-1 (SASE from 1117 Ferris Dr., Novato, CA 94945-1721): This is more of a trial balloon for a zine than a zine itself, with notes on what's promised in future issues. Apparently they hope to be in the main a literary review sheet—or at least most of what they're talking about here is new books and poetry, though other writing is planned as well. (S-2t)

★★★★★

HOLY TITCLAMPS #3 ($1 from Boxholder, PO Box 3054, Minneapolis, MN 55403): A warning: don't use the zine name on the envelope if you know what's good for your mail. This is a somewhat flamboyant gay zine (although the publisher, Larry-bob, isn't averse to publishing stuff from other folks). #3 has a full-color abstract sticker, a couple of rants about the power of words, photos from a faerie invasion of a local department store, and other goodies for those who are out and proud. (D-16t)

★★★★★

☐**HOMELESS BRAGG RAG** Dec. 1989 (Donation from Housing Now!, Santa Barbara Homeless Coalition, PO Box 41304, Santa Barbara, CA 93140): A journal from the streets, produced by the homeless both for themselves and for the public eye. There's a strong activist flavor here (you have to be feisty to be homeless in Santa Barbara; the town heavily discourages such things). They also print personal stories, art, and notes about where to go for help. (L-12)

★★★★★

HOME POWER #14 ($6/yr from PO Box 130, Hornbrook, CA 96044): This newsletter for those interested in alternative energy is finally charging a subscription price, but it's still a great bargain. They emphasize hands-on, how-to information. This issue discusses computer printers and whether they will work on inverters, gives hints on balancing windmill rotors, and looks at phantom loads that can drain your PV system. There's always product reviews, nifty ads, and lots of reader feedback. (S-48t)

★★★★★

☐**HOMUNCULUS** #1 ($1.50 from PO Box 18685, Rochester, NY 14618): "A Journal of the Bizarre, the Horrific, the Phantasmagoric, the Sublime, and the Generally Outr‹130", this one is a collection of short stories and essays that mostly don't follow the rules. Some are cloaked as academic writings, others are flights of fancy that dart off almost too quickly to follow. Thom Metzger speaks darkly of ziggurats and society; Richard Scott makes the reader a character and then kills him off. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES Vol. 9 #6 ($15/yr from Hudson Valley Green, PO Box 208, Red Hook, NY 12571): These folks are concerned with a variety of environmental problems up and down the Hudson. #6 is a special issue devoted to food and agriculture, with notes from local farmers about their techniques, community gardens, organic certification, and much more. One of the best attempts I've seen at a balanced presentation of this complex subject. (T-24t)

★★★★★

HUMANIST NEWS Vol. 4 #2-4 ($10/yr from 4418 Josephine Ln., Robbinsdale, MN 55422-1328): A small Humanist newsletter from the Twin Cities local Humanist group. They print bloodmobile schedules, bits of good humanist and atheist writing from the past, and notes on what the chapter is up to. #2 also features a letter from the local American Atheists group answering some charges against that organization. (S-4t)

★★★★★

☐**ICA NEWS** #6 ($1 & SASE from Bob McGLynn, 528 5th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): The ICA is the Independent Courier Association, a group of bicycle messengers in New York City who've organized to resist restrictive licensing laws, fight for workers' comp, and otherwise help out its members. In addition to putting out the newsletter, they're looking for messenger contacts in other cities. (S-4t)

★★★★★

☐**ILLINOIS ENTERTAINER** Dec. 1989 ($15/yr from 2200 E. Devon #192, Des Plaines, IL 60018): A freebie monthly with a focus on music, though they do branch out into theater and other areas of entertainment as well. The content tends towards new bands on major labels: Eleventh Dream Day, Poi Dog Pondering, and so on. Lots of local advertising and calendar material. (T-86t)

★★★★★

☐**THE IMMORTALIST** Vol. 20 #3-12 ($18/yr from Immortalist Society, 24443 Roanoake, Oak Park, MI 48237): The Immortalist Society is a group interested in cryonics, and this magazine is their outreach and educational publication. They print news of the field, excerpts from research papers, and a lot of short items about scientific advances. Overall, they seem very optimistic, and it's contagious. Associated with IS is the Cryonics Institute, which handles actual suspensions. If you're interested, at least send an SASE for their brochure. (S-50t)

★★★★★

I'M NOT BORING YOU AM I? #7 ($2 or The Usual from Robert Runté, PO Box 4665 PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 5G5, CANADA): Robert's personalzine, a look at the SF world through his eyes. This issue is his CUFF (=Canadian Unity Fan Fund) trip report, and develops his thesis about there being a specifically Canadian science fiction at some length. Along the way he also looks at Canadian art and, of course, provides some insights into a major Canadian SF convention. (S-24t)

★★★★★

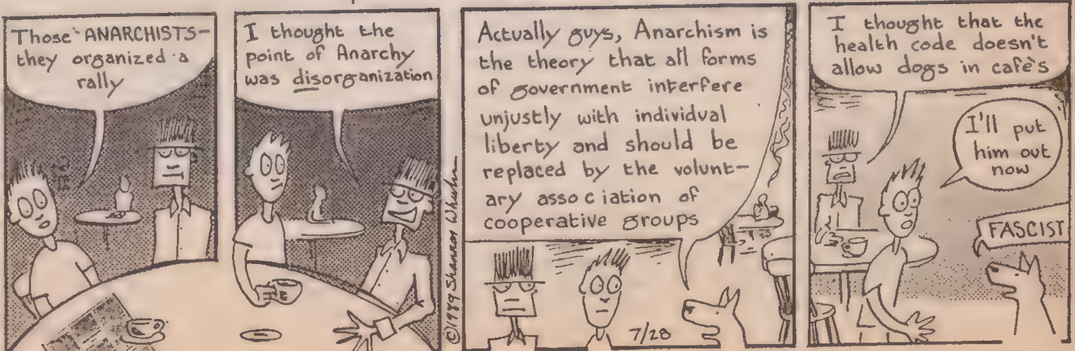
IMPULSE #5 ($1 & a stamp from Jon George, 429 Crabtree Hall, River Falls, WI 54022): An angry young anarchist journal. They take a hardcore stand against government, apparently promoting its destruction by any means necessary. At the same time, there's some ideas on positive things than an anarchist group can do in the community. Current events and reprinted documents link it to the larger world. (S-20)

★★★★★

☐**INDIAN TREATY RIGHTS NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #2 (Donation from Indian Treaty Rights Committee, 59 E. Van Buren St. #2418, Chicago, IL 60605): The masthead reads "A voice and perspective of indigenous peoples in the Americas". Most of this issue is taken up with articles on the potentially explosive situation in Wisconsin, where various groups are trying to put a stop to Chippewa treaty rights to their traditional fishing techniques. (S-6t)

★★★★★

INSIDE #13 (£12/yr from The Outsiders Club, PO Box 4ZB, London W1A 4ZB, UK): The Outsiders Club is a group for people with physical or emotional disabilities, designed to help them find and form relationships, from friendship on through sex. The magazine has words from members who've been helped, plenty of resource notes, chatty news, and an advice column. They also sponsor quite a number of functions in England, and have done some work on setting up similar clubs in other countries. (A5-88t)


Those ANARCHISTS— they organized a rally
I thought the point of Anarchy was disorganization
Actually guys, Anarchism is the theory that all forms of government interfere unjustly with individual liberty and should be replaced by the voluntary association of cooperative groups
©1989 Shannon Wheeler
7/20
I thought that the health code doesn't allow dogs in cafe's
I'll put him out now
FASCIST

★★★★★

INSIDE ENVIRONMENT Vol. 1 #5-6 ($2.50 from PO Box 13061, Lexington, KY 40583): An environmental publication, focused on Kentucky, which takes what I would consider a pragmatist position: they're into discussing what industry can do now to help out, not what might be possible in the future. It's a good source of news on new regulations, both state and national, and new technologies. No revolutions lurk here, but there might be some useful reforms. #6 discusses liming to reclaim acidified lakes and some high-tech ways to protect wetlands. (T-16t)

★★★★★

INSIDE JOKE #72 ($1.50 from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): Popular culture and humor meet in this long-running newsletter; in fact, it's one of the few that's been on the FF mailing list continually since I started. To give you some hint of the contents, this issue has Anni Ackner on reasons to survive the 1990's, Dorian Tenore-Bartilucci on the films of Jeff Goldblum, and Ho Chi Zen on the mining of dragon bones. Popular music, comics, and TV commercials are among the other regular subjects. (S-30t)

★★★★★

THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 3 #12 ($50/12 issues from The Gunpress Publishing Co., PO Box 3257, Alexandria, VA 22302-3257): #12 is the year-end roundup issue of this newsletter that tracks all sorts of developments surrounding the firearms industry. It's mainly devoted to looking at what the NRA has been up to—editor John Aquilino is a very harsh critic of the current NRA administration. (S-4)

★★★★★

INSTAURATION Vol. 15 #1 ($5 from Howard Allen, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): This is a journal of the white "majority" culture which the writers see this country as being founded on. I would say they dislike other people, rather than hate them—though some of their subscribers are clearly in more rabid camps. Still, I think it's good to see the views which are currently unfashionable get aired, though their black and white view of the world often seems too smug. (S-44t)

★★★★★

INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE #47 ($6.50/4 issues from PO Box 433, Willimantic, CT 06226): Still plugging along after more than a decade, this is a relaxed forum for anarchist discussion. Among the bits in this issue are a letter from Laure A. on privilege and what it is, pieces on depression from Michael Ziesing and myself, and a semi-defense of non-state capitalism from Terry Epton. There's always something in these pages that bears thinking about. (D-36)

★★★★★

□**INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA NEWSLETTER** Vol. 16 #11-Vol. 17 #1 (Donation from PO Box 2639, Reston, VA 22090): The main project of this conservative religious group is something called "USA Pray!". Every month they all get together on the first Friday and pray for specific things, as dictated in the newsletter—new jobs for those put out of work by automation, strength for pro-life forces, wisdom for new members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The newsletter tells of these and suggests other ways of appeasing God so that he doesn't pull the curtain down on us all. (S-4t)

★★★★★

INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISER #27 ($3 from J. Poms, PO Box 182, A-1011 Vienna, AUSTRIA): Ads from people all over the world who want to buy, trade, wheel and deal and otherwise get rich quickly. The opportunities range from importing clocks to more unbelievable deals, like the guy who promises to turn your $1000 into $10,000 in 12 months or less. (A4-14r)

★★★★★

INTERNATIONAL PRIMATE PROTECTION LEAGUE NEWSLETTER Vol. 16 #3 ($20/yr from PO Box 766, Summerville, SC29484): Despite a hurricane, these folks are still going strong, taking care of some primates and trying to keep others from being removed from their environment in the first place. There's plenty of news here on the international animal-smuggling industry and steps being taken to stop it. This issue also has excerpts from the AMA's plan to discredit and outlaw the animal rights movement. (S-24t)

★★★★★

□**INTERRACE** #2 ($3.95 from PO Box 1001, Schenectady, NY 12301-1001): A new bimonthly dealing with interracial relationships of all types. This issue has an article on a Japanese boy fighting racist portrayals of blacks in his country, advice on raising bicultural children, and a talk with Sally Sussman, head writer for *Generations*. They feature several advice columns and looks at how the media is treating interracial relationships. A solid job. (D-56t)

★★★★★

INTERRACIAL CLUB OF BUFFALO NEWSLETTER Dec. 1989 ($6.25/6 months from PO Box 400, Amherst Branch, Buffalo, NY 14226): A support newsletter for those involved in interracial relationships, whether by marriage, adoption, or elsewise. They track media mentions and movies which portray such relationships in a positive light, as well as scare stories of ones that don't. They also host a number of functions in the Buffalo area. (S-7)

★★★★★

IN THE PINK Vol. 4 #1 (£3/12 issues from 37 Thorp St., Birmingham B5 4AU, UK): No doubt this "Newspaper for Lesbians & Gay Men in the West Midlands" will cost a bit more on our side of the Atlantic. In addition to local events and a good resource listing they print a bit of news from around the world. (A4-8r)

★★★★★

INTIMATE PUBLICATIONS

That's the name of the publishing company that puts this stuff out, not a description. They're all available from Joel Barrows Cooper (who says he's Clyde Barrows's cousin, by the way), 5913 3/4 Willoughby #2, Los Angeles, CA 90038. Checks to Scottie B. Cooper, and send an SASE with every order.

ABORTION: THE 24 MILLION URBAN HOLOCAUST (75¢): An essay by Patrick Hynes, decrying the current legal state of abortion. There does not appear to be a shred of compassion in this statement; it outright tags whole groups of people, including humanists, feminists, atheists and homosexuals, as being "demon locusts who are Satan's". Certainly there's no contribution to rational debate here. (S-4)

THE BLOOD Dec. 1989-Feb. 1990 (75¢): Each issue starts with "May The Lamb That Was Slain Receive The Reward Of His Suffering"; this is a somewhat ecstatic journal of fervent Christianity. Cooper warns against various sins including homosexuality and masturbation, and tries to explain that following Jesus is the only way to salvation. (L-2)

CAT PSYCHOSIS Jan. 1990 (75¢): "Christian psychosis" is what the Intimate catalog calls this one. It's a couple of pages covered with graffiti, some begging mercy, some casting aspersions on other routes to enlightenment, some occult-sounding poetry, and little bits of randomness. (L-2)

CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY REVIEW Feb. 1990 (75¢): A selection of quotes with minor annotations, drawn from respected theologians and philosophers of the past. Authorities cited include St. Paul, St. Symeon, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer. (L-2)

WARRIORS' BRIEFING Feb. 1990 (75¢): "If You Wish Peace, Prepare For War". However, the war Cooper talks about here is a spiritual one, of the Christian against the powers of darkness, and the bulk of his advice is devoted to ways to live a more fervent life. A bit scary. (L-2)

WAR UPON LOS ANGELES ($5): Barrow calls this a "war manual", but most will see it as a collection of Christian ecstatic poetry, working the reader up into a state of fury over the state of L.A. and exhorting them to join the holy war against it. (S-14)

★★★★★

INTUITIVE EXPLORATIONS Vol. 3 #5-6 ($15/yr from PO Box 561, Quincy, IL 62306-0561): A New Age zine which features lots of advice and teaching. The various writers here are into channeling, crystals, Tarot, astrology, and most any other system you can name. Editor Gloria Reiser is very concerned with attacks on the New Age, and vocal in urging people to fight back when they're being picked on. (S-24)

★★★★★

□**INVENTING EARTH** Inaugural Edition ($10/4 issues from 11 Inverness Rd., Arlington, MA 02174): This is aimed at folks who are interested in saving the world and the environment, but from a different than usual point of view. Rather than focus on the problems, they're focusing on positive steps. This prospectus has pieces on voluntary rainforest conservation, successful recycling programs, and more. (S-4t)

★★★★★

INVERTED-A HORN #5 ($1 (?) from 401 Forrest Hill, Grand Prairie, TX 75051): A collection of essays and poetry from Amnon and Aya Katz and friends. In this issue, Amnon defends the Supreme Court decision on flagburning as a step for liberty, while Aya discusses the attractive qualities of *Blake's 7* for freedom-lovers. They also print some poetry that is traditional in form, though not necessarily in content. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE IOWA IDEA Vol. XI #IV (Donation from Iowa Socialist Party, PO Box 924, Iowa City, IA 52244): A socialist newsletter which concentrates on current problems rather than political theory, though of course the theory informs their stance on the problems. This issue concentrates on peace (with reports on a nearby Plowshares action) and housing (with one of the better articles on squatting I've read). (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**THE IRRIGATION DITCH TIMES** #4 (SASE from 810 Pine Cone La., Colonial Heights, VA 22834): A short zine of humor, reviews, and flotsam. They laud cartoon violence, print a nasty Helen Keller cartoon, and seem to be fascinated with shower curtains. (S-1)

★★★★★

☐**ISRAELI FOREIGN AFFAIRS** Vol. V #12 ($20/yr from PO Box 19580, Sacramento, CA 95819): This is far from being an official Israeli publication. Rather, it pulls together news of "Israel's diplomatic and military activities world wide" from a number of mainstream source. The result is anything but complimentary, focusing on connections with South Africa, Mossad activities in Europe, and similar antics. (S-8t)

★★★★★

ISSUES & VIEWS Vol. 5 #4 ($8/yr from PO Box 467, Cathedral Station, New York, NY 10025): A newsletter for the black community, trying to open up ways to grow and develop without being wards of the state. Editor Elizabeth Wright has a long piece in this issue about the idiocy of studying poverty instead of doing something about it—and the need to do things from within, not from without. A thoughtful expression of a point of view that doesn't hit the mainstream much. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**I: THE FIRST PERSON** #1 ($3 from Zeugma Press, PO Box 663, Graton, CA 95444): A new litmag that has found a way to stand out from the pack: they only accept work written in the first person. At first, given the rarity of such work in other litmags, this is jarring, but it's easy to get used to it. Somehow these stories and poems seem to draw me in more, perhaps by promising a strong link between author and narrator. Stories from Linda Hutton and Eugene Flinn stand out in the premiere issue. (D-36t)

★★★★★

IT'S ($1 & 25¢ postage from Sheila Gibson, 20 Shady Ln., Nashua, NH 03062): This issue of the Monty Python fanzine is a special one, devoted to the memory of Graham Chapman, who recently died. Gibson, better known in print as The Easel (but make checks to her real name!) tells a bit about Chapman's life and career, and reminisces about some of his funnier bits. There's also a couple of pages of commentary from Kim Howard Johnson, who has a new Python book coming out soon. (S-10)

★★★★★

☐**IT'S A MAD MAD MAD MAD MAD WORLD** #1 (2 stamps from Tobias Allen, Flybreeder Studios, 7708 1/2 Greenwood Ave., Seattle, WA 98103): This one leads off with a selection of newspaper clippings about mass murderers and drive-by shooters, a reminder of the tone of the eighties. Later on there's some stuff about independent low-budget video, a scrred against Christmas, and a few odd stories. Pretty downbeat for most of the pages here. (S-20)

★★★★★

JAUNDICED EYE
The Journal of the underside of American culture

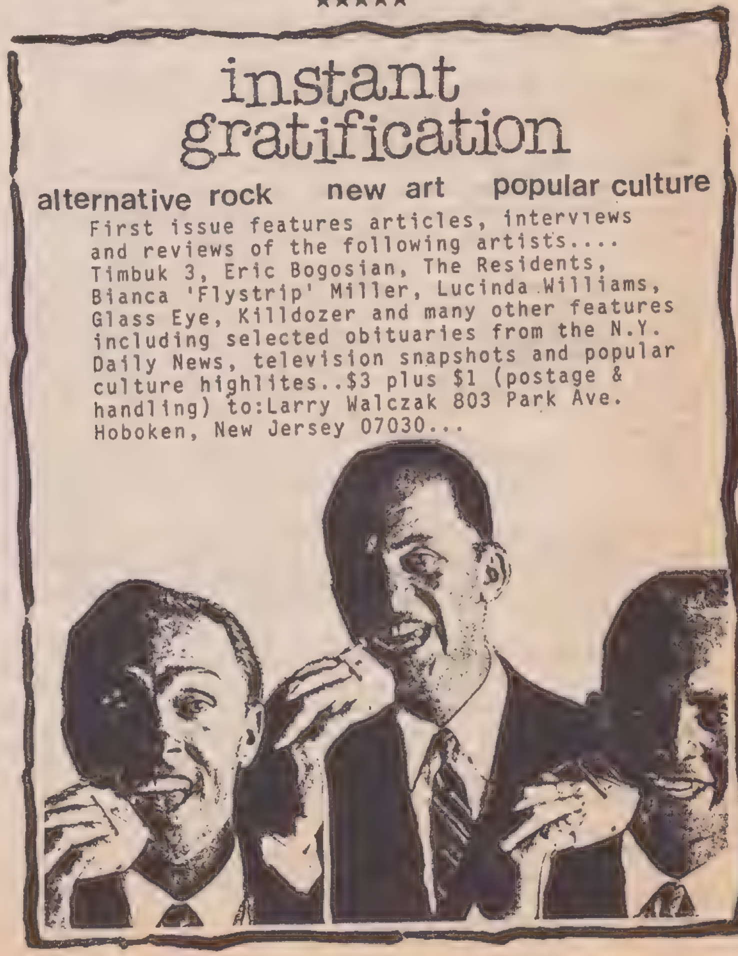
COMING EARLY SPRING 1990

Looking for submissions covering the entire spectrum of the underground experience:

Comix
Science
Fiction
Music
Fact
Film
Politics
Rantings
Ravings
Events
Journalism
Poetry
Art
Occult
Etc.

Articles, Artwork, Music for review, Ad Space prices and further information address all inquires to:

JAUNDICED EYE
c/o Dave Crowley
307 Broadwood drive
Rockville, MD 20851
U.S.A



instant gratification
alternative rock new art popular culture
First issue features articles, interviews and reviews of the following artists.... Timbuk 3, Eric Bogosian, The Residents, Bianca 'Flystrip' Miller, Lucinda Williams, Glass Eye, Killdozer and many other features including selected obituaries from the N.Y. Daily News, television snapshots and popular culture highlites..$3 plus $1 (postage & handling) to:Larry Walczak 803 Park Ave. Hoboken, New Jersey 07030...

JAG Vol. 28 #1 (On Request from R.S. Jaggard, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): A free-market broadside which for quite some time now has been trying to spread some basic Libertarian/conservative ideas. The issue at hand is headed simply "possible", arguing that a sane limited government is indeed within our reach. (L-1)

★★★★★

THE JAMES WHITE REVIEW Vol. 7 #2 ($3 from PO Box 3356, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): A literary magazine by and for gay men. This issue opens with a couple of poems from James White and a brief biographical note, for those of you wondering who the tabloid's namesake was, Inside there are more book reviews than usual, poetry and prose—including the stark, harsh "Rights of Passage" by Rico Burrell. (T-16t)

★★★★★

☐**THE JOKESMITH** Vol. V #4 ($40/4 issues from 44 Queen's Vie Road, Marlborough, MA 01752): "The ONLY comedy newsletter for Business Professionals edited and written by Business Professionals". Basically, this is a collection of jokes and stories suitable for the corporate banquet, sales seminar or perhaps board room. They can also put you in touch with writers who specialize in this sort of material or provide scripts and slides for complete skits. (S-12)

★★★★★

JOURNAL OF THE INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC SANTA CLAUSISM Vol. MCXQII #7 ($1 (?) from Dan Meyer, PO Box 70829, New Orleans, LA 70172-0829): Back after a long absence, this newsletter exists to coordinate and confirm reports of Santa Claus sightings, and so to silence anti-Clausists who deny the existence of the big fellow. There's a medley of wire service reports, notes from independent researchers, and photos inside, as well as ads and movie reviews. (S-8)

★★★★★

JOURNAL OF THE MEGAHEALTH SOCIETY #24-25 ($3 from PO Box 60637, Palo Alto, CA 94306): A newsletter for folks who are interested in life extension and related subjects. A big chunk of #24 is devoted to the start of a history of medicine in this country, titled "The State versus Your Health". There's also some stuff on the psychological component of life extension and a longish Q&A column. #25 continues the exposes of American medical practice, with examples of promising therapies suppressed by the Establishment. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**JOURNAL WIRED** #1 ($7.95 from PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088): A new quarterly co-edited by Mark Ziesing and Andy Watson, devoted to trying to say some important things about the world, to offering literate essays, and to not being more of the same old pap. This premiere issue is pretty hot, starting with John Shirley critiquing Hollywood and ending with Lucius Shepard critiquing the cyberpunks. In between there's one of the last of the Abbie Hoffman interviews, Andy Watson considering the economic madness of today, and fiction by Rudy Rucker and A.A. Attanasio. I think this is pretty hot stuff, and hope there's enough reading public left to make it work. (D-118t)

★★★★★

☐**THE JUBILEE** Vol. 2 #3 (Donation from PO Box 310, Midpines, CA 95345): An overtly religious, conservative Constitutionalist publication. They're heavy supporters of home schooling and prison reform as well. Stories in this issue include Bo Gritz's scheme to end heroin smuggling into this country and the growing reliance on credit and debit cards in our society. Some of the jokes are in questionable taste, but there isn't any overt racism. (T-20t)

★★★★★

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 3 #12-Vol. 4 #1 ($12/yr from R.W. Clack, 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): A monthly conservative polemic that's worthwhile reading for any liberal who wants to be challenged. The major piece in #1 looks at the FMLN and Gorbachev's new public image, arguing for caution and pointing out that the El Salvador government enjoys almost the level of support that Reagan did in this country. (L-2t)

★★★★★

☐**KARMA THEGSUM CHOLING** May/Aug. 1989 ($1 (?) from 637 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206): This is the newsletter of our local Tibetan Buddhist meditation study center. It's more of an inreach than an outreach publication, with notes on what various teachers are up to and some notes on various paths of study, There's also a calendar of happenings, both here and at the parent center in Woodstock. (S-6t)

★★★★★

KATUAH JOURNAL #24-25 ($2.50 from PO Box 638, Leicester, NC 28748): A bioregional tabloid from the Southern Appalachians. While every issue is concerned with preserving the earth and lessening man's impact, each also has a theme. #24 is devoted to peace, and includes a list of organizations in the area who are "peacemakers". #25 delved into habitat and "biodiversity". Well-written articles with a wide perspective. The theme of #26 is children, with inspiring tales of school kids recycling projects, ideas on birth and bonding, and hope for the future. (T-36t)

★★★★★

KEYCHIE KISHLINE #2 (Free, "But a letter or something would be nice", from Nicole, 2334 S. 8th St., Philadelphia, PA 19148): A bouncing bubbling collection of art, collage, poetry and stories, reviews and what-not. It's one of the most eager-seeming zines I've read lately, full of people who want to share bits of their lives and thoughts without worrying too much about being polished or slick. (S-22)

★★★★★

KIDSCIENCE Vol. 3 #3 ($10/yr from 2115 Doswell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108): A resource guide for elementary-level science teachers. This issue has a medley of activities, many devoted to estimating, guesstimating, or measuring things. With winter here, most of these are classroom or cold-weather activities. Home schoolers should take a look at this one. (S-22)

★★★★★

KIDS LIB NEWS ($2 from Oness Press, PO Box 1064, Kurtistown, HI 96760): Another collection of ideas for holistic and freedom-oriented parenting from Mycall Sunanda, who's been exploring this field for years. He gets into the benefits of listening to kids, childhood massage, families sleeping together, and other ideas which still have a crackpot reputation today. Lots of offhand references to other works in the field indicate that he's far from being a lone nut, though. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**KONTAKT** #1 (Trade from Alexander Rostocki, ul. Tylzycka 11m115, 01-656 Warszawa, POLAND): This issue is all in Polish but Alexander promises a 50% mix of English in the next issue. It's basically the closest Polish equivalent I know of to FF, featuring a whole bunch of contact addresses with some short notes. Looks strongest in mail art and related areas. (D-12r)

★★★★★

KREATURE COMFORTS Vol. II #5 ($12/yr from 1916 Madison, Memphis, TN 38104): A melange of popular culture from 8 tracks to the punk clubs. This issue includes lots of live show reviews, an appreciation of the Partridge Family, and best and worst lists for the 80s. There's also a chat with New Rose Records, a French company that puts out lots of Memphis music. Weird sense of humor. (S-12t)

★★★★★

KULTCHA #127-131 ($1/4 issues from Packrat Press, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): A wide-ranging wall newspaper put out by Kerry Thornley, and discussing whatever's on his mind. In #127, it's flag-burning (he wants the Constitution amended to protect flag burners). In #131 he looks at Hell banknotes, speculating that there may just be something in the theory of burning money to achieve happiness. (S-1)

★★★★★

L'AMANITE SCHIZOID #2 (15f & postage from Woody C.C., 44 rue de Lourmel, 75015 Paris, FRANCE): Yes, the "Schizoid Amanita" (which is a famous genus of mostly poisonous fungi) is the name of this magazine. Some great visuals in this magazine, including the six-page wordless comic "...in the Museum of Man". Includes poetry (weirdly speculative), an interview with the group Dan and the Destroys, and a review section that might be a good introduction to the French underground. (A4-32t)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

THE LAME MONKEY MANIFESTO Vol. 4 #20 ($1 from PO Box 8763, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): The alternative tabloid of the

University of Tennessee is still going strong. This issue is mainly filled with their own unauthorized course evaluations for the fall semester, full of cutting comments and occasional bits of praise. There's also short poetry and curious graphics. (T-12t)

★★★★★

LAUGHING WHALE #4 ($7 from Luke McGuff, PO Box 3987, Minneapolis, MN 55403): The final issue of **LW**, this one is a Bagazine—that is, a plastic bag stuffed with items from individual contributors. These include a nut with a poem on it from Geof Huth, a pamphlet of dead Smurfs from Garth Danielson, a tape from Backyard Mechanics For Language, and any number of original art pieces. Only a few sets are left, and they may be incomplete, but this is your last chance to get one of these unique cultural collections. (5″x8″x1″)

★★★★★

☐**LAUGHTER WORKS** Vol. 1 #4 ($15/4 issues from 222 Selby Ranch Rd. #4, Sacramento, CA 95864): A sort of serious newsletter about humor. They feature cartoons, quips and quotes and silliness, but there's also a less immediately funny side here. That's the feature articles which delve into the history or uses of comedy, humor, and laughter. They also sell humor-related items and give a calendar of fun events. (S-8t)

★★★★★

LEFT BUSINESS OBSERVER #34 ($2 from 250 W. 85 St., New York, NY 10024-3217): An alternative view of the business and economic news—especially alternative if, as I do, you live in a town with a Hearst newspaper. #34 continues their series on the major media with an examination of the Washington POST empire, and reports on the situation in Mexico. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**LEFT OUT** Vol. 3 #6 ($10/yr from PO Box 41510, Santa Barbara, CA 93140-1510): Newsletter of a group which refers to itself as part of the Socialist Party/Solidarity. They lead off with a few jabs at the drug war, follow up with a look at Nicaraguan health care, and wind up with bite-sized news from **ZETA** magazine. Seems to be more broadly progressive than some socialist journals. (S-6t)

★★★★★

THE LEIGHTON LOOK Oct.-Dec. 1989 (Sample on request from Rodney Leighton, RR #3, Pugwash, NS B0K 1L0, CANADA): Rodney is trying to make this into a sort of Canadian analog of **FF**, and he's off to a decent start. The jumble of zines and catalogs and music and commentary here reminds me of things I put out a few years back. He's especially strong on wrestling zines and Canadiana, so if either of those interest you, drop him a line for sure. (S-8)

★★★★★

☐**THE LENNOX REPORT** Vol. 1 #1-3 ($2 from Radius Press, 217 E. 85th St. New York, NY 10028): LENNOX is an acronym for Leading Empirical Non-Null Operating function X, a new system for deciding when to buy and when to sell in the options markets. For your two bucks they'll send a sample of their weekly report and more information on the system. I can't presume to rate it for technical competence. (D-4r)

★★★★★

THE LETTER PARADE Nov.-Dec. 1989 ($10/yr from Bonnie Jo Enterprises, PO Box 52, Comstock, MI 49041): A mix of very "normal" writing—reminiscences of the 1965 world's fair, reprinted news clippings on various scams, first-person stories of small town life. It has a certain undeniable charm, but is rather far from the universe of zines I normally review. (S-4)

★★★★★

LIBERTARIAN LABOR REVIEW #8 ($2.50 from PO Box 2824, Champaign, IL 61825): A journal of anarcho-syndicalist news and ideas which has undergone a bit of a facelift and now looks pretty good. On the positive side, they're a link to much anarchist theory which is mostly lost these days, and do a better job of reporting on workplace organizing and foreign anarchists than other journals I read. On the negative, I find their narrow vision of true anarchism—exemplified by calls for purging Marxists and their refusal to seriously consider anti-work positions—a bit aggravating at times. (S-40t)

★★★★★

LIFE ON PLANET EARTH Vol. II #9 (SASE or trade from J.C. Coleman, Embassy of Planet Claire, PO Box 3194, Bellingham, WA 98227): A collection of essays both serious and humorous, plus the computer-generated "Fat Mike" cartoon strip. Coleman leads off this issue by considering the Gaia hypothesis, talks about a bitchin' car he used to own, and suggests appropriate ways to deal with junk mail. There's also a column of zine reviews on the back. (S-4t)

★★★★★

LIFEPACT NEWS #7 ($3 from PO Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706): Lifepact is an organization being set up to provide services to cryonic suspension patients at such future time as they are reanimated. In addition to being helpful to those who already have suspension arrangements, it provides leads on getting such arrangements to others. This issue also contains the second organizational report of the proposed Federation of Cryonics Societies. (HL-24)

★★★★★

LIFEQUEST #6 ($3 from PO Box 18690, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706): A fiction magazine for immortalists—primarily those interested in cryonics and nanotechnology—trying to imagine what sort of future they might someday end up in. In this issue I enjoyed Lee Corbin's "Occupation: Immortal", a scary yet exhilarating look at one way some clump of memories might end up. (HL-40)

★★★★★

LIGHT AND LIBERTY #5 ($10/4 issues from Lawrence E. Christopher, PO Box 33, Woodstock, NY 12498): A sort of New Age libertarian essay journal, entirely written by Lawrence. In this issue he discusses the internal conflicts of being both a bohemian and a classicist (but also neither), and critiques the negative affirmations he sees in **A COURSE IN MIRACLES**. (S-14)

★★★★★

LIGHT WORKER BULLETIN #2-4 (Donation from Nova 8, PO Box 11919, Pueblo, CA 81001-1919): This is the sort of thing which gives the New Age bad name with folks who've had some scientific training. Sentences like "...all of known creation is bound by magnetic properties" are at best confused. For a programme, they offer much power of positive thinking and love. No doubt writing a nasty review puts me on their list to be projected positive energy. Oh well. (S-3t)

★★★★★

☐**LIMERICOCHET** v1.0 (50¢ in stamps from Tom Sinclair, 3855 W. 38 St., Cleveland, OH 44109): There are 18 limericks in the "Rorshach Test" zine. The trick is that there are no ending lines to any of them. Tom intends to print the best conclusions in a future issue, as well as other submissions which strike his fancy. (L-2)

★★★★★

LITERARY MARKETS #49 ($12/yr from PO Drawer 1310, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1310): A marketing journal for small press writers and poets. Editor Bill Marles lists a dozen or two markets every issue, and tracks anthologies and prizes as well. (S-6t)

★★★★★

LITTLE FREE PRESS #71-73 (SASE from 2714 1st Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55408): More from Ernest Mann, the inventor of the Priceless Economics System—the idea that we could create Utopia here and now if we would all refuse to take pay for our work. #72 has more ideas on how to spread this idea more widely. #73 explains how the PES will solve major world problems from Nuclear War to Malnutrition. (S-2t)

★★★★★

LIVE WILD OR DIE #2 (Donation from PO Box 13765, Portland, OR 97213): A tabloid which takes the radical environmental perspective of Earth First! and expands it with anarchist, feminist and other liberatory perspectives. There's lots of stuff here on monkeywrenching, both from the how-to perspective and reports of successful actions. They also give pointers on dumpster diving and natural abortifacients and generally have a good old time opposing industrial civilization. (T-28r)

★★★★★

LIVING FREE #54 ($1.50 [Cash preferred] from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Bufffalo, NY 14223): A journal of living in the cracks with large chunks written by enterprising readers who are doing just that. Topics in #54 include uninhabited islands (Jim is something of an expert on this, though he's also a realist who points out the obstacle to new country schemes) and making concrete blocks at home. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**LIZZENGREASY** #1 ($1 *CASH* from G. Fletcher, Umegaoka 1-56-4-8B, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo 154, JAPAN): A magazine of essays and reviews, produced by foreigners in Japan. They start this issue with a recent John O'Hara book, and then slide into a Japanese Manga comic. Later on there's a few pages of music reviews, and the whole concludes with an essay on ell fishing. Eclectic and cross-cultural. (S-10r)

★★★★★

LOAFING THE DONKEY #29 ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #4, Memphis, TN 38104): A small zine of film reviews as well as the odd bit of music and the like. Peter ranges from the Monkee's *Head* to Norm Orschnorschki's *Forced Entry* to classics like *The Cape Canaveral Monsters*. He seems to truly appreciate a wide variety of things, and writes at enough length to give readers an idea of why. It's all intercut with little bits of collage art and ads for his other zines. (D-32r)

★★★★★

LOCAL ZINE #6 (50¢ from 3579 Via La Primavera, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360): Photos of flying skateboarders provide the backdrop for a short essay here about the necessity to follow your own path in life. Greg Gilday, the editor, is sort of softspoken, but you can tell he's really enjoying being a part of the skate world. Includes a few zine reviews at the end. (D-20)

★★★★★

THE LOG CABIN #103 ($1 from Jerry Edwards, PO Box 881, Medical Lake, WA 99022-0881): A MENSA-based zine for those who are either living rurally already or thinking seriously about it. Written by members in a chatty, back-fence manner, it covers everything from proper treatment of seeds to make them sprout to proper treatment of computers in cold cabins. Fun and even educational. (D-20t)

★★★★★

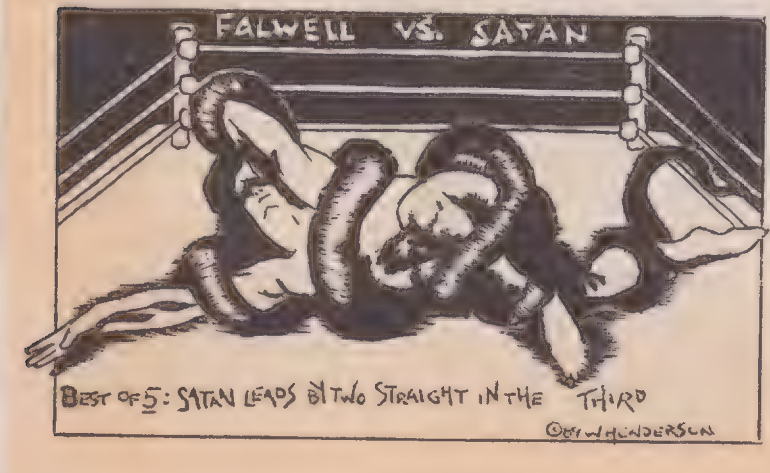
LOLA-FISH #2 (3 IRCs from B. Pommey, 36 res. Jean Macé, 28300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): An international mail art networking bulletin. It lists forthcoming shows and reviews other mail art zines, as well as the odd tape or fanzine. In French, but most of the contents are obvious enough to be understandable. (M-16)

★★★★★

LONGEVITY REPORT #18 ($14.67/6 issues from J. de Rivaz c/o Longevity Books, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A journal of news and debate among people interested in cryonics or life extension (or both). There's much in this issue on Hydergine including a comparison of its effects with those of Ginko Biiloba extract. The social aspects of cryonics as well as practical matters such as properly locating centers come in for discussion as well. (A4-22t)

★★★★★

LOOKOUT! #34 ($1 from PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): A zine with a split personality (literally—there are two covers, Ace Double style, and split contents) with more politics than music but just barely so. On the one side Lawrence Livermore discusses economics and war and recycling and lumbering and burning issues like that. On the other he ventures into the SF Bay area music scene with a pile of reviews and a scene report from Aaron Cometbus. Always good reading whichever side of the zine you start on. (S-32t)


FALWELL VS. SATAN
BEST OF 5: SATAN LEADS BY TWO STRAIGHT IN THE THIRD
©'91 W HENDERSON

★★★★★

LOSING FAITH #11 ($2 & Age Statement from PO Box 10533, Minneapolis, MN 55458): An artistic magazine of sex, death and porkchops. The artists here seem intent on investigating the boundaries of the shocking, and they do seem to be discovering new territory. At least once per issue I find myself presented with something both disgusting and new, if only in its juxtaposition of elements. Xerographic experimentation and more traditional art both play a part here. (HL-20)

★★★★★

LOST & FOUND TIMES #25 ($3 from Luna Bisonte Productions, 137 leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): One of the prime foci of experimental literature, works in which meter and even the shape of the words is as important as grammar or plot. Editor John Bennett's eerie poems set the tone (indeed, Al Ackerman, Stacey Sollfrey and others provide reworkings of Bennett poems in this issue), which is carried on by such marginal voices as Jake Berry, Mike Miskowski, Willy Smith and Bob Grumman. Essential to anyone who dares balance on the cutting edge. (D-52r)

★★★★★

THE LOST PERUKE #14/15 ($6.50/6 months from PM Kellermann, PO Box 1525, Highland Park, NJ 08904): A humor journal with something of the intellectual appeal of **NATIONAL LAMPOON** but fewer photos of naked women. Kellermann hits the mark sometimes, as with the Shar-Pei Image Christmas Catalog insert in this issue. Others, such as the Christmas gift wishes from some celebrities, are liable to offend. If you're willing to take your chances there are some laughs here. (D-30)

★★★★★

LUCID #49 ($1 from Dale Adams, 3041 Stanton Cir., Carmichael, CA 95608): "A forum for active discussion and debate on topics of philosophical and contemporary interest", run as a MENSA SIG. There's always interesting stuff here, although I often find it very wrong, as with Dale's blanket condemnation of college professors in this issue. Grady Towers' works on genius are always interesting, and Alan Hecht is developing an interesting philosophical style as well. (D-20r)

★★★★★

MADAM X'S GAZET #29 (50¢ (?) from 3747 Roberta St., Los Angeles, CA 90031): A colorful little pamphlet which apes a newspaper in appearance, though a rather New Agey paper. It's colorful and all you can read is the headlines, asserting on the front page "Human Being Society Unites Mankind". No explanations given, but this seems to be an attempt to visualize a more positive future. (M-4)

★★★★★

THE MADISON INSURGENT Vol. 3 #10-14 ($15/yr from PO Box 704, Madison, WI 53701): "A collectively run journal of the left", this one offers a place for voices from the alternative community in Madison to speak out. #10 has some interesting news on labor problems at the local food co-op. #11 looks at the situation in El Salvador, the latest news on the Pittson strike, and asks whether individual food choices can make any difference in a capitalist society. #13 has a no-holds-barred review of the local university faculty. (T-8t)

★★★★★

MAIL Vol. 1 #5 ($24/7 issues from Gold Key Box 2425, Milford, PA 18337-9607): This one is aimed at mailrooms somewhat larger than mine; 5 employees to 500, say. Still, I gleaned some interesting things from this issue, including the first hazy details of the 1991 rate increase. It looks like letters will go up to about 28¢-32¢, with other rates up 10-30%. And for the first time barcoding will be a way for us smaller mailers to save money as well. (S-78t)

★★★★★

□**MANNA IN THE WILDERNESS** Vol. 3 #2 (Donation from 500 W. Van Buren, Las Vegas, NV 89106): The newsletter of the Las Vegas branch of Catholic Worker, who are in the process of rehabilitating a house to serve as a Hospitality House for the poor. There's news of their progress, a schedule of events, and some contact info here. (L-2t)

★★★★★

MANNEQUIN SOCIETY #4 (2 stamps from Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): More collage and writings from the prolific John Six. He also squeezes a few interviews into this issue, including one with himself to plug his own musical project 555 and one with the young band Fictional History. Lots of mannequins and news clippings exposing the more psychotic side of New York life. (D-28r)

★★★★★

THE MATCH! #84 ($2 from PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): Another fat issue of anarchist rumination from Fred Woodworth and other anarchists. There's a big spread on Fred's run-in with Madalyn Murray O'Hair in this issue, as well as a few bits on the '89 Anarchofest in San Francisco. I'm also happy to see some firm arguments against the idea of revolutionary violence and the letter column and book review provide plenty of short provoking reading. Good stuff. (HL-88t)

★★★★★

MAX(ine)'S TWO PAGES #6 ($1 from PO Box 866, Manchester, GA 31816): A collection of information, often related to law enforcement, though there's no telling what will turn up in the next package. This issue looks at a variety of mail-order schools offering to turn you into a private investigator, concluding that perhaps the buyer should be very wary in this field. (S-2)

★★★★★

MAYDAY! Oct. 1989 (Donation from PO Box 3395, Oakland, CA 94609): The occasional newsletter of the continental anarchist movement is back again from a new production group. This issue is focused on a critique of the most recent gathering in San Francisco, with pieces on sexism, heterosexism, and the Day of Action. Lots of good points here, but I wonder whether they'll get through to the people who should read them. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**MEGAMIND ILLUMINATIONS** #1 (*Trade ONLY* from Flash Tabloid, PO Box 645, Silver Springs, FL 32688): A "networking contact zine" that concentrates on the more psychedelic fringes of the underground. They want to hear from anyone with neat ideas or neat stuff to pass along. A good mix of alternative energy, drug paraphernalia, and strange ideas fills #1. (S-22)

★★★★★

☐**THE MEMORY BE GREEN** ($1 (?) from 944 Wesley, Evanston, IL 60202): A new litmag with a hand-painted cover and a small selection of poetry and prose inside. I enjoyed Richard Lambton's wordplay-story "From Saturday Night's Poppy Seed Came Sunday Morning's 'Junk'" and the depressing poetic look at America's youth by Meredith Hamilton. (S-12)

★★★★★

MESECHABE #4/5 ($10/4 issues from 7725 Cohn St., New Orleans, LA 70118): This issue takes the Green/bioregional synthesis off in a new direction entirely: that of the arts. I'm afraid I was not all that excited by their collection of myths, poetry, "The Surre(gion)alist Manifesto", short stories and black oral tradition. It makes for a decent litmag, but the connections to the problems facing the earth are a bit tenuous for me. (S-58t)

★★★★★

☐**MEZLA** Vol. V #1 ($4 from N'Chi, PO Box 19566, Cincinnati, OH 45219): A revived journal of ceremonial magick and related topics. This issue has a personal report on an initiation rite, manifestoes for the Campus Crusade for Cthulhu and the Sheya Enochi, and a rice recipe from Aleister Crowley. There's also some Crowleyan history, a review of a pile of Falcon Press books, and several rituals for the independent magus. By and large, this is fascinating stuff. (S-40t)

★★★★★

MIAMI METROPOLIS #7 ($1 from Dave Dunn, 1552-A Euclid Ave., Miami Beach, FL 33139): This is sort of a litmag, but it's got a little bit of everything: short stories, stereoscopic sculpture photography, architectural thoughts, music critiques, and more. The covers are decorated with holograms and if you throw in an extra couple of bucks they'll include afive-track mellow rock CD from Veil of Tears (also with holographic cover) in your order. (S-24t)

★★★★★

MICKEY'S PINK BUTTHOLE #5 ($1 & a stamp from Kate, 415 N. Dunn #2, Bloomington, IN 47408): Hardcore feminism shot through with photos and prose objectifying guys for a change, as well as classic ads for female remedies and reprints. This issue includes Gloria Steinem's classic "If Men Could Menstruate" and excerpts from Valerie Solanas's "S.C.U.M. Manifesto". Not for the easily offended, but wild women should take a look. (HL-12)

★★★★★

MICROWAVE NEWS Vol. IX #6 ($130/3 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Stn., New York, NY 10163): This "Report on Non-Ionizing Radiation" boils down a great deal of scientific research and government and industrial activity in one handy location. The major area of concern right at the moment is the effects of low-level electromagnetic fields, whether from power lines or electric blankets, on human health. The general consensus seems to be that the jury is still out—but it's sure looking like an increased cancer risk is there. (S-16t)

★★★★★

☐**MIDNIGHT GRAFFITI** Fall 1989 ($24/4 issues from 13101 Sudan Rd., Poway, CA 92064): The cover of this magazine of "Dark Fantasy" is stunning, with a great techno-dinosaur on superslick stock. Inside the darkness is leavened by the special section of dino stories, with a great piece from Joe Lansdale and some Ray Bradbury included. They also review a pile of vampire books by women and current comics (they also feature comic art) and generally search the whole realm of dark fantasy for the delicious and scary. (S-80t)

★★★★★

☐**MIKE GUNDERLOY IS A WHIMP** #2 (SASE from PO Box 60254, Oklahoma City, OK 73146): Four pages of collage which apparently has no purpose beyond, perhaps, using the title. If they were trying to get banned from review, they failed; they also failed to impress me with this throwaway. (M-4)

★★★★★

☐**MILLION YEAR PICNIC** #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 21311, Santa Barbara, CA 93121): This one has one foot in the local music scene, with commentary on a live show and pictures of wild jackets on wild punks...but I'm not sure where the other foot is. There's some rude quotes, and an interview with a pizza delivery girl that takes a couple of pages. For next issue, they promise the start of "The Perfect Martini" as a continuing feature. (D-16r)

★★★★★

☐**MIM NOTES** #38 ($1 from PO Box 3576, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3576): The "Official Newsletter of the Maoist Internationalist Movement", this one is written by a bunch of people using pseudonyms like "MC5" and "MA3". They maintain their own idiosyncratic party line at length, dumping on nations all over the world (including China, where Deng is condemned as an inappropriate heir to Mao) and engaging in self-criticism when they don't provoke a revolution. A fascinating bunch of fanatics. (T-16t)

★★★★★

MIMOSA #7 ($2 or The Usual from Dick & Nicki Lynch, PO Box 1270, Germantown, MD 20874-0998): A SF fanzine which takes pride in its links to fannish history. Especially fun in this issue is a chat with both Robert Bloch and Bob Tucker, reprinted from CHAT, along with some other CHAT memories. The lettercol contains more on a fifty year old Worldcon controversy, and Sharon Farber discusses working at a mental hospital in some detail. (S-44)

★★★★★

☐**MINISTRY OF COGNIZANCE COMMUNIQUE** #1-2 ($1 from Rodney E. Griffith, PO Box 523, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0523): MOC used to be an apa, but it's mutated. Now Rodney is printing the whole schmeer himself. The general tone is somewhere between anarchist and marginal, with anti-SubG stuff in #2 and fallout on the decadence of rock and roll in #1. I get the impression that the direction of this is not absolutely fixed yet, but boring sectarians need not apply. (D-12t)

★★★★★

THE MINNESOTA WOMEN'S PRESS Vol. 5 #15 ($25/26 issues from 2395 University Ave. #215, St. Paul, MN 55114): A newspaper concentrating on women's issues, from workplace to lifestyle, in Minnesota. This issue has a special section on health & wellness, plus news of an audacious project to compile a huge list of pro-choice voters across the state. (T-20t)

★★★★★

☐**MISC.** Dec. 1989 ($6/yr from Clark Humphrey, 1630 Boylston #203, Seattle, WA 98122): A single sheet of opinion, tips on what's hot, and new for the Seattle folk. Clark discusses everything from Christmas gifts to get and avoid to the struggle to save some local nightlife to elections to the turmoil in Eastern Europe. Witty and interesting, even for those of us clear across the continent. (S-2t)

★★★★★

MOBILITY LTD. Vol. 5 #6 ($14/yr from 401 Linden Center Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524): "A magazine for people with mobility impairments", this is full of ideas and news for people who need some help to get around. They're especially strong in tracking new technologies and in telling how to adapt pastimes from gardening to canoeing for those who are disabled. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE MONITOR #17 ($25/6 issues from CDR, PO Box 50469, Atlanta, GA 30302): Published by the Center for Democratic Renewal, this is the best source of outside information on the doings of various far-right and hate groups, from the Klan to the neo-Nazis to the Identity movement. From time to time I recommend something on the right as a way of getting a suppressed view. Well, you should also take a look at this one to see what some of those views mean in terms of concrete violence right now. (S-16t)

★★★★★

MONK #7 ($10/4 issues from 369 Montezuma #137, Santa Fe, NM 87501): Mike and Jim drive around the country in a mobile home with a MacIntosh computer. Every once in a while they spit out this campy slick magazine. It's full of natural food and New Age ads, notes about their travels, missing cats, interviews, and plain silliness. A travelogue for people who don't quite fit in with the world and like other people who are likewise. (S-96t)

★★★★★

MONSTER #25 ($10/24 issues from MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): A small and frequent zine dedicated to the monster movie genre. #25 starts off with movies from Producers Releasing Corporation and also runs down a bunch of possession films, *Exorcist* ripoff and otherwise. (D-4t)

★★★★★

☐**MOONSHINE** #16 (£1.50 from 498, Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6BD, UK): A rather impressive pagan magazine with a hefty amount of material on shamanism, including the first part of a series on "Techniques of Practical Shamanism" (leaning towards dreamwork to start). There's a Starhawk interview with some commentary from others, poetry, personal epiphanies, and legends. Quite well-packed. (A4-44)

★★★★★

☐**THE MOTHRA EFFECT** #1/2 ($2 from R.J. lesch, PO Box 2752, Minneapolis, MN 55402): Actually, the two bucks is for issue #1, which I haven't seen; this is just the preview. It appears that this will be a literary zine for the crazy and confused, with new wavish poetry and fiction. There's a tense, gonzo atmosphere to the pieces in this sample, and a feeling of the future coming on too fast. (S-8t)

★★★★★

MSRRT NEWSLETTER Vol. 2 #10 (45¢ SASE from Chris Dodge, 4645 Columbus Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407): This one is aimed at the socially-conscious librarian, an increasingly common species. It features bits and pieces of member news and librarian news. Perhaps of more interest to **FF** readers will be their extensive review section, covering many political and social publications which I don't usually see. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**MUSEUM INSIGHTS** Vol. 1 #2-Vol. 2 #1 ($28/6 issues from PO Box 313, North Amherst, MA 01059): This is an unexpected delight, a newsletter for museum lovers (and who isn't one?). Editor Nancy Frazier reviews museums, gallerys, and other exhibitions from all over the country (with perhaps some bias towards the Northeast), from the Palm Springs Desert Museum to The National Museum of Women in the Arts. Other readers chime in with pieces on places like Plimouth Plantation. Catalog and art video reviews complement the travels, with pages on famous paintings in each issue. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**MUSHROOM PIE** (75¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): Ken says the title of this short story zine will change every time, but they'll still be numbered serially; this is also **STORYZINE** #1. It's got five real short stories in it, all by Ken, generally dealing with growing up fairly poor and in a broken home. I dunno how much (if any) of this is autobiographical, but a few of these pieces are quite affecting. (D-14)

★★★★★

☐**MW PENPAL WORLD** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 from PO Box 563, Abilene, KS 67410): A new penpal magazine that is loosely associated with **AMERICAN INDIAN DEFENSE NEWS**, so it has a fair sprinkling of Native American entries. This being the first issue, there are not many listings; listings in future issues will be $3 each. (S-4)

★★★★★

THE MYSTERY FANCIER Vol. 11 #2 ($7.50 from Guy M. Townsend, 407 Jefferson St., Madison, IN 47250): A rather literate journal for mystery lovers. The writers here consider such esoteric topics as "The Medical Practitioner in the Writings of Raymond Chandler" or the innovative style of Dashiell Hammett or obscure pulp series. There's also reviews as well as Jeff Banks's continuing look at the statistics of mystery titles. (D-104t)

★★★★★

NAAPM NEWSLETTER #41 ($10/4 issues from 2735 Benvenue #3, Berkeley, CA 94705): The quarterly publication of the National Association for the Advancement of Perry Mason, a fan club in the traditional mode. They're always interested in exploring aspects of Mason's career and its presentation to the public. (D-16r)

★★★★★

NADA Vol. 2 #1-4 (75¢ from John McCarthy, 1459 W. Cortez, Chicago, IL 60622): A forum for mail art and xerographic art. Most of the works here don't seem to struggle too hard to make a point. Rather, they take bits of the ideosphere that are underutilized and recombine them, displaying the idea of recycling in the context of culture. #4 gives the impression of consumer culture running at a fever pitch just before breaking down entirely. (D-16)

★★★★★

NAKED LADIES DANCE #3 ($1 from PO Box 20421, Providence, RI 02920): As the title suggests, nude dancers are the reason for the existence of this zine. Stev reviews clubs and dancers, and reprints signed photos he's picked up along the way. This issue also has a review of the **MELODY** comic series. (D-12r)

★★★★★

☐**NAPHA NEWS** ($$2 (?) from PO Box 83, Mt. prospect, IL 60056): That stands for National Amusement Park Historical Association", although the articles within cover plenty of current rides as well as blasts from the past. Carousels, roller coasters, log rides, you name it, you'll find it here. They preview new construction and feature photos of classic rides. No information that I can see on joining NAPHA, so an SASE might be in order. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**THE NET OF LOVE** Vol. V #3 (Donation from Sunrise, PO Box 113, Warrenville, IL 60555): Sunrise is "An International Networking Organization" dedicated to manifesting the power of love in the world. They print articles from a variety of viewpoints, New Age, Christian and otherwise and encourage members to interact with each other and the world on a loving basis. Their goal is 500,000,000 members by 2000 AD. (S-18)

★★★★★

THE NEW ABOLITIONIST Vol. VII #3/4 ($15/yr from Nuclear Free America, 325 E. 25th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): NFA tracks the progress of communities around the country in their efforts to ban nuclear weapons and related items from their borders. This issue focuses on Oakland, where the Federal government and others have filed suit to block implementation of such an ordinance. They also list the NFZs around the world and the top fifty nuke contractors, just in case you're in a boycotting mood. (T-16t)

★★★★★

☐**NEW AGE DIGEST** #1 ($7.95/yr from Starlog Telecommunications Inc., 475 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016): A new magazine in the pulp format: a thick perfect-bound digest. Much of the thickness comes from reprinting; over half of what's here is excerpts from various books put out by Llewellyn, Shambala and others (even Thoreau gets excerpted—what would he have thought?) Topics run from chakras to vegetarianism (they seem ignorant of veganism) to astrology to the search for Enlightenment. About what you'd expect from something that looks like an old SF magazine. (D-114t)

★★★★★

THE NEW CRUCIBLE Nov. 1989 ($3 from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301): This is Garry's "Magazine about man and his environment". It's got environmental news releases from all around the country, as well as feature articles. Garry also prints the latest legal news on his Constitutional struggles and a smattering of freethought material. (S-94t)

★★★★★

NEW ENGLAND GREEN ACTION #2 ($10/6 issues from new England Green Alliance, PO Box 4567, Burlington, VT 05406): This newsletter comes from one of the various groups of Greens in this neck of the woods—mostly, the "lefter", social ecology oriented folks. #2 focuses on the Seabrook nuke plant and how the Democratic party leadership has endorsed it. Toxics, feminism and the stands of the Left Greens are also addressed. (S-8t)

★★★★★

NEW ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN #167-169 ($6.50/yr from Bill Case, 120 Academy St., Manlius, NY 13104): The folks int he New Environment Association were wrestling with some currently-fashionable topics, like a sustainable society and a revived sense of community, long before they became fashionable. They're still wrestling, coming together in meetings, looking at land, planing dream houses, and consider changes in both self and society. A neat example where the personal really is political. (S-6t)

★★★★★

NEW FORCES Vol. 1 #7 ($5/yr from Tim Mayer, 8816 Manchester Rd. #167, St. Louis, MO 63144): A political newsletter with "Falangist" roots—indeed, the major article in this issue is on the fate of the Falangist party in Bolivia. They also take a quick look at recent events in Lebanon. (S-6)

★★★★★

□**THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HOME DEFENDER** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($5.50 for #1 or $3 for #2 from Veterans Information Project, POI Box 662, Hillsborough, NH 03244): This magazine came out in 1986, back when the Feds were still thinking of putting a high-level nuke waste dump in New Hampshire. It's full of reasons why this is a Bad Idea, some of them specific to the site, some not. Other anti-nuclear activists could probably find some useful ideas here. Oh yeah—they won. (S-40t)

★★★★★

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW SUPPLEMENT Vol. 13 #5 ($3 from 20 Werneth Avenue, Gee Cross, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 5NL, UK): A review mag, more informative than pretty, more poetry than prose, more British than Canadian or American—though of course there are exceptions to all these classifications. They have a wide variety of reviewers and often have two or more perspectives on a single title. Very good at putting things in the context of their own national scene. (A5-34)

★★★★★

NEW INDICATOR Vol. 15 #1-6 ($8/yr from Student Organizations, UC San Diego B-023, La Jolla, CA 92093): 23 years later and still maintaining a fierce radical edge, this is an alternative paper for the entire UCSD community. #1 includes notes on the ozone layer, legal advice for sneaking beer into dry dorms, how to jam a parking meter, and the usual pitch for more people to get involved. They also do a good job of covering boycotts and international affairs from an opposition point of view. (T-12t)

★★★★★

NEW OPTIONS #63 ($2 from PO Box 19324, Washington, DC 20036): Mark Satin keeps his ears open for hints of new ways to deal with major social and political problems, and presents them distilled for his readership. This issue focuses on the global market and whether we can arrange to have it somehow be not just another big place for big companies to make money. (S-8t)

★★★★★

NEW PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS Vol. 3 #4 (On Request from PO Box 14524, Chicago, IL 60614): A publication aimed at the theater community in the Midwest. They interview playwrights and others involved in the theater, including Artistic Director Dennis McCullough in this issue. New plays are reviewed and there is some general consideration of the health of the theater. (S-32t)

★★★★★

NEWS & LETTERS Vol. 34 #10 ($2.50/yr from 59 E. Van Buren #707, Chicago, IL 60605): As far as I know, this tabloid is the only periodical where you can read about Marxist Humanism: an attempt to recover the original ideas of Marx, unsullied by the later excesses of state capitalism. Despite all this, the format echoes that of Communist papers of all stripes: lots of worldwide political and labor news, coupled with analyses charting the course of the revolution. (T-12t)

★★★★★

NEWS AND NOTES FROM ALL OVER 12/17/89 ($1 from SET, PO Box 10491, Oakland, CA 94610): The Society for the Eradication of Television is still doing what it can to warn people of the drawbacks of the idiot box and propose alternatives. This issue includes the bit that ran in Dear Abby, in which the advice columnist called the group un-American, as well as other reprints. (L-2)

★★★★★

NEWS FROM THE MOTHER GROVE Vol. 2 #6 ($1 (?) from Ár nDraíocht Féin, PO Box 1022, Nyack, NY 10960): This one seems to have perked up considerably of late, perhaps representing a new influx of energy into this serious revival Druidic neopagan faith. The **NEWS** is essentially an inreach organ, with Board meeting notes, lists of Groves and Protogroves, and thoughts on rituals. (D-16t)

★★★★★

NEW THOT FREE THOT Vol. 1 #4 (Sample on request from Bill Greenhouse Publications, 1215 N. Genesee Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90046): An interdenominational publication for practitioners of several religions which seem to have their common ideological roots in Christian Science—New Thought and The Infinite Way are two of the other main ones here. Much of the discussion is technical and not open to outsiders. The biggest chunk of this issue explores the codependency between the leaders of the United Church of Religious Science and its participants. (D-24t)

★★★★★

NEW UNIONIST #149-150 ($3/10 issues from 621 W. Lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A monthly paper for folks who feel that true socialism is the answer to many of our ills. #149 explains why the breakdown of politics in Eastern Europe cannot be interpreted as a failure of true Marxism. It's also got a short biography of American Marxist Daniel DeLeon. #150 has one of the first leftist critiques of the American invasion of Panama that I've seen. (T-4t)

★★★★★

THE NEW YORK REVIEW OF SCIENCE FICTION #16 ($2.50 from PO Box 78, Pleasantville, NY 10570): Literary criticism of speculative fiction aimed at the insiders and intelligentsia. There's a fine essay on A.E. van Vogt by Alexei and Cory Panshin in this issue. But on the whole, it's too dry and high-falutin' for me. Then again, they'd probably find FF to be the literary equivalent of eating soup with the wrong fork. (S-24t)

★★★★★

□**NEXT PHASE** Vol. 1 #1-3 (95¢ from Phantom press, 41 Bishop St., New Haven, CT 06511): A poster magazine of experimental art and literature. Start with the picture on the cover. Open it once to find a spread of poetry and short editorial. Open it again and find a single piece of art, highlighted with notes on the artist and his intent. Close it and look on the back and there's a short story. The design is impeccable and the topics tend to be those of environmentalism, social justice, and other such concerns. (O-2t)

★★★★★

NICE DAY FOR A FUNERAL #2 (SASE from Ilene c/o Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A collage of stuff about death: funeral home ads, collages of flying funeral directors, notes on cremation, and more. They also throw in a few referrals to other, less morbid fanzines. (D-12)

★★★★★

NOCTULPA #4 ($10 from George Hatch, PO Box 5175, Long Island City, NY 11105): A paperback-fat perfect-bound collection of horror short stories. There's plenty to choose from here, but I most enjoyed (if that is the word) Ronald Kelly's futuristic "Flash-Welder", a tale of war and revenge. There's a story of shifting viewpoint from Steve Rasnic Tem, a rather disgusting "What a Waste!" by H. Andrew Lynch, and Lovecraftian poetry by Ann K. Schwader. And that's just the tip of the graveyard... (D-175t)

* * *

☐**NOCTURNAL CLASSICS** #1 ($2 from Nocturnal Publications, 1591 Taylor St. #4, St. Paul, MN 55104): A new quarterly which (at least for this premiere issue) is showing off a single story. This time it's R. David Ludwig's "The Curio Shoppe Gifts", a tale of child abuse and child revenge with an unexpected ending. With illustrations by Allen Koszowski, it's a nice little package. (D-16t)

* * *

THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC #13 ($1.25 from Susan, PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): A very underground litmag, more concerned with printing good stories than looking slick, having the latest authors, or sucking up to the bigger mags. A lot of the stories here have a depressing feel born perhaps of youthful cynicism about the world, which can make reading a whole issue a bit tough. For $1.50 you can get their new "Author's Booklet", which has contact addresses for the writers here and an index to the magazine's contents. (D-24r)

* * *

NO LONGER SILENT #3 ($1.50 *CASH/MO/Stamps* from Eliza Blackweb, PO Box 3582, Tucson, AZ 85722): A small anarchist zine with a rather independent voice, not tied to any faction of the national "movement". This issue casts a critical look at the SF gathering, discusses the follies of both direct action and armchairism, and has some interesting letters. A good mix of poetry and graphics makes it fairly light (but not lightweight!) reading. (D-28)

* * *

NOOK NEWS Vol. 5 #4 ($4 from 38114 Third St. #181, Willoughby, OH 44094): A support journal for writers. They provide short how-to articles, as well as lists of events, contests, and markets. They're interested in everything from poetry to playwriting, and put out various special bulletins on the side. They also claim to be aimed at all writers, although it appears to me that beginners have the most to learn from this publication. (S-12t)

* * *

NOOK NEWS CONFERENCES & KLATCHES BULLETIN Vol. 2 #4 ($4 from 38114 Third St. #181, Willoughby, OH 44094): Organized geographically, this one lists support groups, meetings, workshops and other opportunities for the writer in need of training or encouragement. Each issue has around 75 listings, mainly in the US but with a few elsewhere in the world. (D-12t)

* * *

NO POETRY ($2 from PO Box 17863, Denver, CO 80217): This is the "Anti-Everything Issue" of this artzine put out by Julee-Peezlee. It's got a lot of killer collages, with color photos pasted down on some pages. The messages here tend to be bleak, of death and murder and decay. Organized religion and mass consumption get slammed, and in one corner there are a few fanzine reviews. Real nice looking, with a free morbid "Welcome to the Nineties" sticker in every copy. (HL-28t)

* * *

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 12 #9 ($15/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): A regular tabloid of news on a variety of peace and social justice issues. #9 is largely focused on reproductive rights—not just the abortion question, but sterilization of Native American women and the alarming incidence of C-sections in this country as well. (T-16t)

* * *

NO SENSE #3 (SASE from PO Box 5961, Buena Park, CA 90622): An exercise in personal communication, this contains most anything that editor Jeff wants to talk about. This includes a short horror story, some poems, music reviews, and a piece on why eating meat is wrong. For future issues he's looking for responses to the question "What is Utopia?". (D-8r)

* * *

NOTES FROM THE DUMP Vol. 4 #59-64 ($20/yr from Terry Ward, PO Box 39, Acworth, NH 03601): Terry really does run a dump (well, a "transfer station") up in New Hampshire, which fuels his rants on garbage and recycling and the like. But it also gives him spare time to reminisce, tell stories from his past, or rage about the current political situation. He's an entertaining writer, and this no-frills paper survives because of that. (S-6)

* * *

☐**NOTES IN CLASS** #1 ($2.50 from David Elzey, PO Box 11224, Berkeley, CA 04701-2224): Some of the flotsam from the years David spent as a teacher in Berkeley and Oakland: the notes he found littering the classroom floor when the students had gone. Transcribed and with the names changed, they show conclusively that things are much the same as ever in the schools, and that homework is not uppermost on the minds of the pupils. (D-19)

* * *

NOVOID #7 ($3 from Colin Hinz, 349 West St. N, Orillia, ONT, L3V 5E1, CANADA): Colin occupies one of the pivotal positions in the meta-network of zinedom; **NOVOID** helps bridge the diverse cultures of science fiction and experimental art. This issue, for example, has much critical examination of the Art trike—and then a lettercol composed mostly of folks from SF fandom. Neal Wilgus contributes short humorous news items, Jeff Curtis a somewhat salacious piece of comic art, and Joseph Uphoff, Jr., some of his mathematically enhanced prose. The zine looks and feels good too, with appropriate use of both mimeography and xerography. I like it. (Though it's a bit odd to read other people discussing oneself in the letters...sort of like eavesdropping). (S-42)

* * *

☐**NOZINE** #2 ($2 from L.J. McAdams, PO Box 4542, Seattle, WA 98104): A collection of photocopy art and other stuff with a strongly depressing futuristic content—at least, it's depressing if you're not into war and computers and corporations. They print a photo of a punk rock Reagan, some short stories, and a full page of neon-green poetry stickers as well. Very creative. (S-30)

* * *

☐**THE NUCLEAR RESISTER** #66 ($15/8 issues from PO Box 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733): These people aim to report comprehensively on civil disobedience directed against nuclear weapons and power. They have short stories on a lot of actions, plus addresses and the occasional letter for people serving time. It's front-cover news in #66 that a Massachusetts jury actually acquitted on a necessity defense. (T-8r)

* * *

☐**NYCAP NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #1 ($10/yr from 33 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): This comes from the New York Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, a new umbrella group that takes a hardcore line. They basically want to get rid of pesticides and move people towards integrated pest management. This premiere issue includes success stories, flea-fighting ideas, and lots of contacts and resources. (S-8t)

* * *

THE OBLIGATORY SIN #2 ($4 from Bob Crouch, 210 E. Jefferson, Pittsburg, KS 66762): A litmag with a theme—this time around it's "Redemption", and as one might expect,t here's a heavy spiritual content to the stories and poems here. Some good work here, including Cathy Buburuz's poem "Lugubrious Intermezzos at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Elementary" and the mythic short story "Not Quite the Girl Next Door" by Holli Quinn. (HL-56)

* * *

☐**OBSCURE PUBLICATIONS & VIDEO** #2 (SASE (?) from PO Box 1334, Milwaukee, WI 53201): This one traces a few things that may well be more obscure than most I mention. For example, there are notes in this issue on a forthcoming GG Allin biography, on a film of Bernhard Goetz confessing, and on the complete Bryant Gumbel memo (which they'll send you for four stamps). Lots of alternative culture moguls mentioned here. (S-4t)

* * *

THE ODINIST #124-125 ($8/yr from PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32629): A historically-oriented northern pagan journal, working towards a better future for the "Folk". If the merest hint of white pride turns you off, stay away; their introductory pamphlet is clear on things like preserving their own "racial and cultural heritage". Otherwise, you may find interesting things in their broad-ranging articles; #124 goes all the way from Zen to the political system of ancient Rome. #125 includes a revised list of Odinist festivals and a review of Sombart's **THE JEWS AND MODERN CAPITALISM**. (S-10)

* * *

OFFICE NUMBER ONE Vol. 645 #197 ($5.43/4 issues from 1709 San Antonio St., Austin, TX 78701): A humorous zine of parallel universes. This issue opens with proof that Santa and Jesus are brothers, and then moves on to a psychological interpretation of Jack & the Beanstalk, alien visits, haiku, and who knows what else. (HL-12)

★★★★★

□**OREGON PAGAN COUNCIL NETWORK NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #2 (Donation from PO Box 1012, Oregon City, OR 97045): This is a sort of overarching publication contributed to by a number of pagan groups in the Pacific Northwest. Of interest in this issue is an article on the hatchet job done on the Aquarian Tabernacle Church by a local TV station and the "Pagan Entrepreneur's Corner." (S-10r)

★★★★★

THE ORWELLIAN TIMES #25 ($15/yr from PO Box 22431, St. Louis, MO 63126): A somewhat conspiracy-oriented look at the ills of the modern world. Editor Winston Smith is most focused on the Federal Reserve Bank and the fictitious nature of our monetary system. But fluoridation, the IRS, the masons, doublethink, Karl Marx and Jesus Christ all come into these pages at one point or another. (S-7)

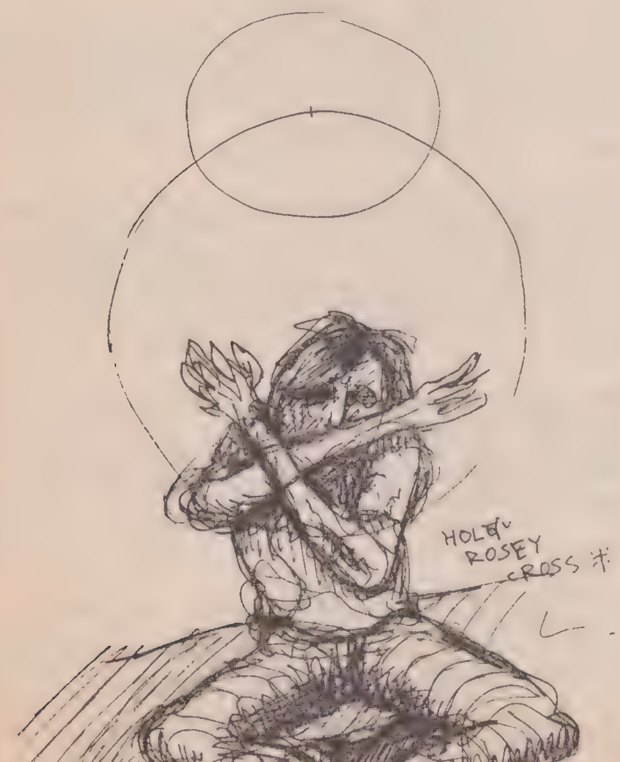
★★★★★

OTTERWISE Winter 1989 ($4/4 issues from PO Box 1374, Portland, ME 04104): A zine "for kids who love animals", this one puts animal rights ideas into language suitable for children. The winter issue features an article on dolphins, a story about hunting, and a recipe for a vegetable turkey for Thanksgiving dinner. There are crosswords and other puzzles, plus jokes and a short book review. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**OUTLAW BIKER** #61 ($29.95/12 issues from Room 2305, 450 Seventh Ave., New York, NY 10001): A magazine for bikers who are into fast wheels, wild women, and heavy partying—and don't care to hide it. They revel in the biker lifestyle, with lots of photos of the women and the bikes and the tattoos, and features ranging from jokes to a tech advice column to space for Vietnam vets to remember. It's a slick professional job, but not one for the inhibited. (S-84t)

★★★★★



□**OUTLAW BIKER TATTOO REVUE** #6 ($4.95 from 450 Seventh Ave. #2305, New York, NY 10001): A slick periodical directed at a specific segment of the tattoo market. This issue is largely taken up with the "People's Choice Awards"—the artists that their readers picked as the best, with brief histories and lots of photos of their work. Plenty of color here, and lots of amazing skin art. (S-82t)

★★★★★

OUTRAGE #20-22 ($3 from 108 Schuyler Pl., Ithaca, NY 14850): "All the news that's been suppressed" from an anarchist collegiate perspective. There's a lot of anti-frat stuff in these issues, and it looks like anti-frat activists may just be getting somewhere at Cornell. They also defend free speech, report on the anarchist gathering, and discuss the drawbacks of corporate control of pharmaceuticals. Well-done and intense. (HL-12)

★★★★★

OUT WEST #9 ($2.50 from 10522 Brunswick Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95945): "The Newspaper That Roams" does so in a motor home, driving about the American West with editor Chuck Woodbury at the wheel. Along the way he takes pictures and writes about dino-parks, stores hiding in caves, towns so small the only elevator is a dumbwaiter, and so on. The wide open spaces are still full of friendly people and strange sights, and this is the second-best (after going there) way to see some of them. (T-40t)

★★★★★

PACIFIC CRYSTAL GUILD NEWSLETTER Winter 1989-90 (SASE (?) from PO Box 1371, Sausalito, CA 94966-1371): A bare-bones informational listing for those interested in crystals, with a New Age slant. The bulk of it is devoted to listing crystal stores on the west coast, chiefly Northern California. There's also notes on a few forthcoming events for this community. (S-4)

★★★★★

PAGANS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER #42 ($15/13 issues from PO Box 86134, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5, CANADA): The Pagans for Peace Network seems to be a bit tenuous these days, perhaps due to editor Sam Wagar's recent move. The newsletter is still coming out regularly, with notes on the state of Paganism in Canada, contact addresses, and bits of news. Karl Marx puts in an appearance as a Voudon loa in this issue. (S-4r)

★★★★★

PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS Vol. 4 #3 ($8.50/yr from PO Box 18211, Encino, CA 91316): A pagan journal which encourages discussion on all sorts of basics. In this issue, that includes the ethics of the Craft, the place of sexuality in pagan teachings, and the necessity of working for initiation as opposed to "instant magic". There's also some well-researched material on the Irish Celtic tradition and a Yule ritual. (HL-58)

★★★★★

□**PALMETTO POST** #2 ($0-$20/yr from AFSC, 130 19th Ave. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705): This is a joint project of the American Friends Service Committee and the Florida Greens Clearinghouse, providing comprehensive Greens information to the area. #2 has the text of the SPAKAs from the Eugene conference, as well as local reports, Housing Now! action reports, and some basic green philosophy. An excellent production. (T-32t)

★★★★★

THE PAN-AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION NEWS #27 ($12/5 issues from PO Box 244, Nocatee, FL 33864): A very open Native American paper which networks people together and encourages attendance at Sweat Lodges and other ceremonies. They accept anyone with any Indian blood, and list all sorts of goings-on, language lessons, genealogy ideas, and more. (T-16)

★★★★★

□**PANIC** (2 IRCs (?) from Libby Hart, PO Box 151, Surrey Hills, 3127, AUSTRALIA): An international mail-art contact sheet. Libby lists shows from all over: Italy, Japan, Australia, Germany...though, strangely enough, none from the US in this issue. TO get your mail art event listed, just write. (A4-2)

★★★★★

PANMAG #27 (SASE from PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009): A mail art reaction to SMILE, the Art Strike, Plagiarism, and other hot topics on the network these days. It's a collage of drawings and clippings and bits of manifestoes, with Mark Bloch's comments scribbled in between. Who knows what it all means; maybe nothing, maybe everything. (S-4)

★★★★★

PAPERBACK PARADE #16 ($4 from Gryphon Publications, PO Box 209, Brooklyn, NY 11228-0209): A zine for collectors of paperback books from the golden era, when men were men and covers hinted at sleaze which the books often didn't contain. This issue is a special about Richard Prather, with an interview done by Richard Lupoff and some autobiographical musings as well. (D-48r)

★★★★★

☐**PAPER WORK** #3 (Free to contributors or exchange with other Mail Art zines from Gregory Zbitnew, #4-2305 W. 6th, Vancouver, BC, V6K 1W1, CANADA): A collection of original mail art pieces loosely revolving around the theme of "television", with collage, rubber stamping and other handwork touches throughout. The next couple of issues will be concerned with "official" forms and documents and then handmade postcards, if you want to get involved. (S-15)

★★★★★

☐**PARACLETE** Vol. 1 #3 (Donation from PO Box 9715-330, Portland, ME 04104): Published by the Sophia Divinity School, which is an activity of the Church of Antioch. They describe themselves as an independent Catholic rite, and believe in the existence of a divine voice within. Among other things, they sell various Gnostic texts by mail. (S-4)

★★★★★

☐**PARLÉE PLUS** Vol. 15 #7 ($36/yr from PO Box 430, Babylon, NY 11702): A slick-cover gay tabloid centered in New York. It's about 50-50 news and entertainment, leading off with brief stories from around the world. Later they review music (not all by gay performers), print astrology and advice columns, and of course print ads from the gay social scene. Joe Bracco and Byron Keith Bird are profiled in #7. (T-58t)

★★★★★

PARTS IV ($12/4 issues from 451 Moody St. #134, Waltham, MA 02154): A zine for fans of the movie *Re-Animator*, which in turn was adapted from a Lovecraft story. They feature news of what the folks from that film are up to now (a sequel is in the works), tasteless humor, SubGenius references, and more. There's a bit of fiction and silly tabloid news stories on decapitated heads here as well. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THE PATRIOT REVIEW Vol. IV #5 ($1.75 from PO Box 905, Sandy, OR 97055): A Constitutionalist journal which seems to be about equally concerned with America's lack of moral fiber and fighting the IRS. They have all sorts of theories on how to pay less taxes, as well as articles on juries, the World Conservation Bank, and other favorite hobbyhorses of the movement. (T-16t)

★★★★★

PEACE ($1 (?) from PO Box 1088, Violet, LA 70092): A small zine of Christian evangelism. Besides the usual earnest preaching and the list of uplifting cassette tapes they have for sale, this issue has the first part of a look at the occult and an interview with Rob Flanagan from the band Righteous. (HL-18)

★★★★★

PEACE & FREEDOM Vol. 6 #3 ($1.50 [no checks] from Paul Rance, 17 Farrow Rd., Whaplode Drove, Spalding, S. Lincs., PE12 0TS, UK): A jam-packed zine of alternative culture in England and beyond. There are pages for poetry, independent book publishing, music, zines, you name it. They also carry notes on quite a number of social causes. Everything is packed in tight in fine print, which makes for a bit of searching sometimes (but who am I to complain?). It's good to see the scene is vibrant there too. (A5-36r)

★★★★★

THE PEACEMAKER Vol. 42 #7 ($10/yr suggested donation from PO Box 627, Garberville, CA 95440): There's a core of socially-committed activists in this country who refuse to cooperate with the government, to the extent of withholding income taxes that would be spent on the military, trying to beat missiles into plowshares, and so on. **THE PEACEMAKER** chronicles what some of these activists are up to, and offers essays on ideas for living rightly in a world organized wrongly. I find it inspiring. (T-8t)

★★★★★

☐**PEACE MEAL NOTES** #2-4 (Donation from Steve Gulick, 2211 Bainbridge St., Philadelphia, PA 19146): Steve's altar ego is the Peace Meal Player, a socially conscious mime. This short newsletter looks at street theater and other unusual ways to get messages across. He talks about local events, activism, and cultural democracy in a relaxed friendly tone. Small but open to ideas. (S-3)

★★★★★

PEACEWORK #192-193 ($1 from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): International news and opinion from the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers, for those of you slow on the uptake). #192 opens with articles assessing bits of the situation in Central America, focused on El Salvador, Columbia, Costa Rica and Honduras. It also reports a successful use of the "necessity defense" in a CD trial. #193 features statements from a number of activists on "Challenges of the '90s for Nonviolent Social Change". The common themes seem to be a need for more democratic institutions and more linkage between currently fragmented issues. (S-16t)

★★★★★

PENGUIN DIP #30-31 ($15/10 issues from Stephen H. Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave. #1, Malden, MA 02148): This one starts off each issue as a SF fanzine, with letters from a batch of folks on diverse subjects and an article or two (Lawrence Watt-Evans on convention programming in this issue). Then it mutates into a Diplomacy zine, with reports on the various games Stephen is running in the back. An interesting combination, and one which probably broadens horizons in both fields. #31 has the results of a reader survey and predictions for world affairs in 1990. (S-18)

★★★★★

PENT-UP OBSERVATIONS Vol. 1 #3 (Donation from Mike Furry, $67000, Arizona State Prison, 10,000 S. Wilmot Rd., Tucson, AZ 85777-0005): Edited jointly by Mike and Avi Naftel (who is also in the State Prison), this is a rather miscellaneous collection. There's a nukewar story, ads for Greenpeace and PETA, stuff on how Hitler was the most successful anti-abortionist ever, civil rights news, and a page of fanzine listings. They're willing to send this out for most any donation, with stamps being helpful. (S-30)

★★★★★

THE PENUMBRA #2 (One stamp from Porcine Software, PO Box 20625, New York, NY 10009): A satirical response to both New York City's attempt to make the Tompkins Square area safe for Yuppies and the **THE SHADOW**, a radical paper keeping an eye on the situation. The actual goings-on are so Byzantine that at times it's tough to know what (if anything) here is satire. I did enjoy the comparative review of boiled potatoes. (T-8t)

★★★★★

PEPTALK Vol. 6 #4 ($10/4 issues from PEP, PO Box 5247, Eugene, OR 97405): These folks provide information and support for those who think they might be interested in polyfidelity—sexually closed group marriage. They practice what they preach, and the lead article here is an interview with a successful triad. There are also answers to readers' questions and some stuff on how to relate to other people. (S-10t)

★★★★★

PERIPHERAL VISIONS #2 ($1 or The Usual from Rob Sommers, PO Box 15031, Gainesville, FL 32604-5031): A small zine based in the SF world with some of the verve of **SCIENCE FICTION RANDOMLY**, which is hardly surprising as they're roommates. This issue includes Steve Antczak on the best movies of the 80's, a few zine reviews, and some poetry from Charles Lipsig as well as fantasy by Hawk. (S-14t)

★★★★★

PHILIP MORRIS MAGAZINE Nov./Dec. 1989 (Subscription hotline 1-800-235-7501): This one reminds me a lot of airline magazines: lost of slick human interest stories having little to do with the folks putting it out. There's a stuntwoman here, some soup recipes, and a photo feature on extremely large chairs. As far as I can tell, there are two reasons for subscribing: you're a militant pro-smoker and want to read their news on the latest fights (which is extensive) or you're a militant anti-smoker and you want to cost the company some money by getting free copies. (S-44t)

★★★★★

☐**THE PIGEON CREEK CLARION** #1 (SASE (?) from Don Rodgers, PO Box 1014, Greenville, GA 30222): A single-page essay from Don, looking at government intrusion into our lives. "When the government sets standards for you it also sets your priorities for you" pretty well sums up the complaint here. (S-1)

★★★★★

PIRATE JENNY #4 ($3 from Pat Mueller, 618 Westriidge, Duncanville, TX 75116): A good-looking science fiction zine with fun contents. Pat's own diary excerpts are great, talking about the world from typesetting to pregnancy. Dennis Virzi takes SF fandom apart with a Jackie Mason schtick, while B. Ware explains Why Artists Starve. The lettercol is well-edited and intelligent. One of the best. (S-32t)

★★★★★

PKDS NEWSLETTER #22/23 ($6/yr from PO Box 611, Glen Ellen, CA 95442: The Phil Dick industry continues to roll along, with movies, opera, biographies, you name it. This newsletter of the Philip K. Dick Society tracks it all, prints obscure bits of Dickiana, interviews people involved with Dick's memory, and generally having a good time, Interesting spread of Japanese paperback covers and enough news to choke a horse mark this issue. (S-20t)

★★★★★

PLAGIARISTIC TENDENCIES #8 ($1 from Sara Edwards, Box 66, Rt. 16, Ischua, NY 14743): The title here tells the story—the contents are swiped from a bunch of other zines. There's some comic art, a few short short stories, a diner picture, Lydia Lunch, and some plagiarist manifesto. Inscrutable. (S-10)

★★★★★

PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER #252 ($1.50 from Jude Grant, PO Box 12421, Columbus, OH 43212): #252 is an all-comics issue of this wide-open zine. There's a lot of stuff here to offend folks, from the inbred bear to Premature Ejaculator Girl to bits of sex and violence (though not gratuitous ones), but Jude stands up for free speech, so they're here. Besides, a lot of this stuff is funny, particularly the snide works from Dave Matthews and Gordon Nelson. (S-28)

★★★★★

THE PLOWSHARES NEWSLETTER Vol. 6 #3 (Donation from PO Box 585, Orlando, FL 32802): This small tabloid does its best to track Plowshares actions around the world—direct witness against the weapons of war, by people not afraid to be arrested while trying to beat nuclear missiles or subs into plowshares. The latest actions, trials, releases and so on are in every issue, along with addresses for activists and thoughts about the course of the movement. (T-8)

★★★★★

☐**PODIUM** Nov. 1989 (Contact at PO Box 190, Avenel, NJ 07001): This is mostly directed at the inmate population of the Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center, a special prison in New Jersey for those convicted of various sex crimes, but the editor suggests that copies may be available for postage. It's a fat and well-done package, with articles on the ADTC itself, various resources (AA, Sexaholic Anonymous, the Bible), news from outside the walls, stories from inmates, and more. (S-64)

★★★★★

POINTS OF LIGHT Vol. II #10-Vol. III #1 (SASE from 928 E. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11230-2104): A pagan newsletter from the Temple of Eternal Light. They announce upcoming events under their sponsorship and publish short articles of possible interest to the pagan and New Age communities. #1, for example, has an introduction to Imbolc. They also sell various magical supplies. (L-2)

★★★★★

☐**THE POLITICAL BANDWAGON** Vol. 6 #5 ($12/12 issues from 1632 Robert Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601): This is for collectors of political ephemera—chiefly campaign buttons, though they range afield to sample ballots, books and other goodies. The bulk of the paper consists of auctions and sales from folks with things they don't want, with lots of pictures. This issue also has an overview of artifacts from the suffrage movement. (T-20t)

★★★★★

THE PORTLAND ALLIANCE Vol. 9 #12 ($15/yr from McKenzie River Gathering, 2807 SE Stark, Portland, OR 97214): A community tabloid with a hard, radical edge to it. This issue examines class conflict in a "revitalizing" area of the city and reports on a FEMA nuke emergency drill in the area. Alexander Cockburn also passes on the news that the Israeli army has banned Palestinian possession of fax machines in the Gaza Strip, apparently having learned from the Chinese. (T-20t)

★★★★★

☐**POUND** (50¢ (?) from Subsoil Publications, PO Box 364, Spring Grove, MN 55974-0364): A collection of one-liners without much explanation—not that one is necessarily needed. A sample: "Love, easier done than said" and "Deficity, Reagan's shining city on a hill". (S-2)

★★★★★

THE POWER PACC Nov. 1989 ($1 (?) from PO Box 34905, Phoenix, AZ 85067): This one comes from the Phoenix Arizona Commodore Club, a users group for a computer that is rather often ignored. Most of it is internal club business—who's up to what. what resources they offer, and why the newsletter is late. Looks like they have a lot to offer to the user in the area, though. (HL-10)

★★★★★

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 7 #3 ($12/6 issues from PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): A newsletter of Libertarian theory, but pitched in practical terms and avoiding some of the more abstruse intra-movement arguments. Instead, the writers here discuss Hurricane Hugo, Congressional pay raises, or the situation in Eastern Europe, showing how the free market can do things much better than coercion and taxation. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER #148-149 ($1.23 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): A collection of quotes and quips that spans the ages, together with occasional quietly witty commentary from editor Jerry B. #148 includes Shaw on Christmas, Vonnegut on writing, and Marcus Aurelius on ephemerality. (S-8)

★★★★★

PRAKALPANA LITERATURE #14 (4 IRCs from P-40 Nandana Park, Calcutta 700034, INDIA): A bilingual (Bengali-English) zine of experimental prose-poetry crosscutting literature. Typographic devices are important here, as is a feeling that something experimental is going on. The zine has grown of late, with reviews and discussion of what they're trying to do becoming more prominent. (D-70t)

★★★★★

PRINTER'S INK Vol. 5 #3 (On request from Thomson-Shore, PO Box 305, Dexter, MI 48130-0305): This is meant to advertise the printing services of Thomson-Shore, who specialize in short-run books. But it's not puffery; they put valuable information into every issue. This issue discusses in detail the best way to prepare photos for halftoning with modern equipment. (S-4t)

★★★★★

PRISON NEWS SERVICE #21 (Donation from PSC Publishers, PO Box 5052 Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1W4, CANADA): News from prisons around the world, collected by a group that is apparently dedicated to finding other models for dealing with people. Every issue includes as an insert the latest **MARIONETTE**, the newsletter from Marion Prison in the US where some of the worst abuses in the Federal Prison system go on. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

PROCESSED WORLD #24 ($12/4 issues from 41 Sutter St. #1829, San Francisco, CA 94104): An analytically-oriented, office-centered slick magazine about work. Specifically, it's about the drawbacks of work in a technological society, with their "Tales of Toil" from around the area often being rather interesting. They get into wider issues as well; AIDS and art are both featured in #24. (S-48t)

★★★★★

THE PROJECT Vol. VI #2/3/4 ($25/yr from PO Box 20273, Ferndale, MI 48220): This conspiracy Theory journal has recently re-evaluated the state of the world and now takes as its thesis "The Overt and Covert Organs of the Vatican and British Empire are Locked in Mortal Combat for Control of the World." In addition to lots of short items, this special combined issue has Hawthorne Abendsen's 57-page essay "Inside the 'Men's Club': Secrets of the Patriarchy". Check out their rare book service too. (S-32)

★★★★★

□**PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS** #6 ($7/4 issues from PO Box 35, Stn. Ahuntsic, Montreal, QC, H3L 3N5): An official fanzine for fans of Robotech, which (in case you're out of touch with popular culture) is a TV series and book and toy and whatnot about interstellar war and flexible technology and other stuff. In addition to features concentrated on Robotech, they briefly look at other Japanimation. Lots of pictures, notes on inconsistencies in episodes, and even an article on whether some of this technology is feasible. (S-34)

★★★★★

PSYCHOTRONIC VIDEO #4 ($20/6 issues from Michael J. Weldon, 151 First Ave. Dept PV, New York, NY 10003): All you ever wanted to know about the obscure, the gory, and the just plain bad movies that are kicking around your video rental store. This issue lists the most prolific actors around and then does a couple pages on #1: David Carradine. There's also a continued listing of "mondo" films and of course lots of reviews. (S-56t)

★★★★★

PSYCHO VIDEO Vol. 1 #3/4 ($2 *CASH/MO* from Gary Lesley, PO Box 7333, Federal Way, WA 98003): A sleazefilm zine that sticks to its core business: rating and reviewing movies from the adventure, gore and porno shelves. Gary is a tough reviewer, rating films from A through F, and taking points off for things other gorehounds don't worry about—like poor acting and incoherent plots. Two pages of fanzine reviews wrap up the well-done package. (S-26)

★★★★★

□**PULPO** #7 (75¢ from American Publishing Co., 484 Lake Park Ave. #249, Oakland, CA 94610): These guys ask that the zine name not appear on their mail. It's hard to understand the reticence, since the zine itself obviously doesn't give a damn about offending anyone. They print a centerfold pinup of one of Ed Gein's victims, some fiction where excrement and mistreating women plays a prominent role, and nasty replies to letters on previous issue. They also review pork rind products and have a few pages of comics. (D-24)

★★★★★

PULSAR! #15 ($3 from Tony Ubelhor, PO Box 886, Evansville, IN 47706-0886): A fine science fiction fanzine that takes the trouble to look good. But this is not form over content, for the interiors are worthwhile: a short story from Mike Resnick, lots of art from Joan Hanke-Woods, an interview with Forry Ackerman, and much more. Tony publishes more fan fiction than most SF zinesters, but he chooses pretty well, and I always find a story or two to enjoy here. (S-50t)

★★★★★

□**PUNKPALS** Dec. 1989 (Two 25¢ stamps from Robert Brown, 2331 Blake St., Berkeley, CA 94704): A pen-pal listing oriented towards punks. There's a dozen or so folks in this issue looking for correspondence, from all across the country. Each on lists musical tastes as well as general thoughts. Many of these folks are into good causes, from animal rights to no nukes to straightedge. Others just want to have fun and talk about music. (D-7)

★★★★★

THE PUSHCART WAR #2-3 (3 25¢ stamps from Frank B., PO Box 208, CMU, Pittsburgh, PA 15213): A collection of essays, music and zine reviews, and other general articles. There's an interview with long-time newspaper photographer Teenie Harris, an actual piece of slag, and "Sex and the Double Word Score" among the contents of #2. #3 has good zine reviews and a chat with Lesser Apes. A spirited publication reminding me a bit of **NANCY'S MAGAZINE**. (D-24t)

★★★★★

PWALIVE Vol. 3 #1 ($5/yr from PO Box 6089, Minneapolis, MN 55406): "A newsletter by, for and about persons affected with AIDS". The writers here are very concerned that those testing HIV-positive not get buffaloed, and that testing remain not just confidential but truly anonymous. As a result, they're critical of some other AIDS service groups. But this doesn't keep **PWALIVE** from listing all manner of contacts and services in their pages; it just keeps them taking responsibility for the information they send out. (S_24t)

★★★★★

PYLON #4 ($1 & 2 stamps from PO Box 38236, Germantown, TN 38183-0236): There's a little of a lot of things here. #4 has an overview of the animal rights movement, music and fanzine reviews, and a couple pages of poetry, They also feature snide horoscopes and a very short story. (S-14r)

★★★★★

QT'S ENTERTAINER #14 ($10/6 issues from 670 Providence St., Woonsocket, RI 02895): For those of you looking for real *fan*zines, this is the place to start. Editor Connie Watson tracks down all sorts of fan clubs and gives them a chance to hunt new members through her pages. Each issue also profiles a particular celebrity and their fan clubs; this time it's Tom Jones who gets that honor. (HL-20r)

★★★★★

QUEER #10-12 ($1 (?) from PO Box 6013, East Lansing,. MI 48826): An enigmatic and irregular zine of art and stuff. #10 is captioned "Dick's Birthday Party", and features an anatomical drawing on the front and s few short poems on the back. Stuffed with this into the envelope were such things as a feather, a photo, and a piece of film. I suspect every copy is different. #12 has one collage and one poem. (S-2)

★★★★★

□**QUIDNUNC** #1 ($2.50 from Clare S. Rosen, PO Box 532, Glencoe, IL 60022): All sorts of coll cultural icons rub shoulders in this new zine. We've got an interview with Dan Clowes, the cartoonist behind **LLOYD LLEWELLYN**, a talk with the musical bunch Cheer-Acident, Bill Wrbican being accosted by a bum, poetry, and more. Reviews of extreme music, books, and zines are tucked away in the back. The nice layout is only mildly hurt by the photocopy problems. Looks like a good start. (S-28t)

★★★★★

QUIMBY #19 ($3 from PO Box 281, Astor Stn., Boston, MA 02123): Well, these guys seem to be refocusing on what they do best, which is underground comics guaranteed to upset anyone who's edgy about sexual or other bodily functions. They also find space for other bits of culture, though, including Mic MicInnis's reviews of magazines and an interview with the band Mindgrinder, as well as a selection of photographs from Joel Meunier. There's some exciting and innovative work here these days, as well as some bits that still seem focused on easy shocks. (S-56t)

★★★★★

RADIO FREE THULCANDRA #19 ($2 or The Usual from Marty Helgesen, 11 Lawrence Ave., Malverne, NY 11565): This is a zine from "Christian Fandom, an interdenominational fellowship of Christians and Science Fiction Fans". Most of it is letters from readers, and a fascinating lot they are. The focus of the discussion is on the relationship between SF and Christianity, but it's not a narrow focus by any means. An interesting place for theological and fictional debate. (S-56)

★★★★★

□**RADIUM 226.05** #2 ($10 (?) from Södra Allégatan 3, 413 01 Göteborg, SWEDEN; US contact Pat Hollis, Living Color Productions, 12 Pleasantview Ln., Circle Pines, MN 55014): A fat perfect-bound collection of artistic and literary works from the darker reaches of the underground. There's a rant by Lydia Lunch, color prints from Joe Coleman (including an eerie self-portrait), an excerpt from Burroughs, a print by Jim Thirlwell, and a couple of stories by Jack Stevenson—to name a few. Everything seems purposely designed to be unsettling, from the scary poetry to the bondage art by Tom of Finland and others. (S-104t)

★★★★★

THE RAG #12 (Donation from PO Box 3038, Peoria, IL 61614): **THE RAG** started out as a forum for Peorians to express themselves, but thanks to publicity her and elsewhere they have a lot of stuff coming in from out of state, including a pile of poetry from Norma Lee Edwards and drawings from Mick Cusimano. There's reviews and letters, notes on someone's couch, plenty of poetry, short-short stories, and who knows what else in these pages. (T-12r)

★★★★★

RAISED BY WOLVES #2 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from Mr. Ed, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763): This is grim, graphic and deeply affecting. The editor has slowly been remembering his childhood sexual abuse by his father, and is dealing with it in part by getting it down on the printed page in words and drawings. It's an amazingly personal document, and one can only stand back, respect it, and hope it all works out sooner or later. (D-20t)

★★★★★

☐**THE RAT** #1 ($2.95 from Rich Harvey, PO Box 2196, Stockton State College, Pomona, NJ 08240): The Rat is a new pulp hero, whose adventures are written and illustrated by Harvey. He has a deliciously nostalgic style, with the ex-criminal protagonist and his fellow characters being almost caricatures, but with plenty of action in the plot. This is backed up by some other short fiction and a nice bit of litcrit, an analysis of the Destroyer novels written by Will Murray. (S-28t)

★★★★★

THE RAT RACE RECORD #6 ($1 from PO Box 1611, Union, NJ 07083): A journal of essay and opinion. It's sort of amusing to see Bob Black and Daniel Ust duking it out over what anarchism is when many in the modern anarchist movement wouldn't accept either one of them as a comrade. Editor Conny Jasper writes about the advantages of natural food to the harried. Geneva Hagen talks about world poverty, and there is a good deal of networking, mostly in zine and prisoner addresses. (S-20)

★★★★★

REALISTIC LIVING #11 ($10/yr from PO Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214): Gene & Joyce Marshall, who publish **REALISTIC LIVING** are interested in rebuilding the world, from a Christian, decentralist, ecological, feminist point of view. They're most concerned with ethics and religion and the links between these and other issues. In this issue, Gene write an interesting Christian-pagan dialogue in an attempt to bridge some of the gaps. (S-16t)

★★★★★

☐**REALITY SANDWICH** (SASE (?) from Yum Haus c/o Swain, PO Box 976, Adelphi, MD 20783): This appears to be a single-page newsletter of political satire, though none of the issues are numbered. Targets include Jim Bakker, Jesse Helms, and George Bush. One of these pages reports the passing of the "American Icons Law", protecting the bald eagle and the Golden Arches as well as the flag and other things. Funny and probably libelous in spots. (S-1t)

★★★★★

RED HEIFER OFFERING #2 ($4/8 issues from Chris Short, MANC Box 9123, Olanthe, KS 66061): A zine from the young Christian underground, focused not just (or even mostly) on the music, but also on poetry and other literary efforts. They print short essays, poems, and reviews of other publications from the same general orbit. A very caring and sensitive zine. (HL-12r)

★★★★★

RELIGION

TINA #2 ($2 *CASH/Stamps/Food Stamps* from Osiris Ranebo, PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): The official newsletter of the Church of Tina Chopp, a religion based on vegetable sacrifice and snake fondling (further details inside). This issue is full of Chinese characters and drug use. They're also looking to find out how to say "Tina Chopp is God" in as many languages as possible; drop 'em a line if you can help out. (D-40t)

★★★★★

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 5 #2-3 ($17.50/11 issues from Richard Cimino, PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): Richard surveys a whole lot of religious publications every month, and reports on trends in this side of the world. #3 leads off with a retrospect of the past year's news, and then moves on to such stories as the rising threat of lawsuits against TM and the renewed worries about Islam on the part of evangelical Christians. Straightforward and useful reporting. (S-10)

★★★★★

THE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT Vol. V #10 ($15/yr from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 515 Wythe St. #201, Alexandria, VA 22314): A newsletter which tracks church and state separation issues from the church perspective—that is, they want the government to stay the heck out of the churches. Deprogramming continues to be a major topic of concern here, with several articles in #10 and a useful guide as to the major players in the current controversy. Home schooling, Native American peyote use, and clergy malpractice also pop up here. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THE RELUCTANT FAMULUS #7-8 (The Usual from T.D. Sadler, 422 W. Maple Ave., Adrian, MI 49221): A pretty basic science fiction fanzine—which is a good thing, since a lot of people in the field have complained about a lack of newcomers the past few years. With just over a year of experience Tom is doing a good job. Best bets in #7 are the continuing discussions of zines and conventions. #8 reviews a bunch of zines and the posthumous Heinlein book, and has an interesting consideration of the new Star Trek. I note that the letter column seems to be growing; a good sign. (S-42)

★★★★★

☐**RESEARCHER** Vol. 3 #4 ($30/12 issues from Wiswell Ruffin House, PO Box 1449, Temecula, CA 92390): This is put together by Michael A. Hoffman II, a prominent revisionist—in this case, one who believes that the Holocaust is a hoax (one of Ruffin's major projects is the distribution of the comic **TALES OF THE HOLOHOAX**). This issue reports the savage beating of French historian Robert Faurisson, for daring to hold similar views; it also has plenty of nasty things to say about Jews and blacks. But remember, free speech is for everyone. (S-8t)

★★★★★

RESISTANCE #13 ($6/yr from Friends of Durruti, PO Box 790, Stn. A, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2N6, CANADA): This one is devoted to "covering militant autonomist, anti-imperialist, national liberation, feminist and anti-nuclear struggles in advanced capitalist countries". They do this by reprinting communiques from various underground and revolutionary groups, chiefly in Europe. This information isn't available anywhere else on this continent, so far as I know—which is not to imply that I endorse the groups behind it. (T-16t)

★★★★★

ROBZINE #14 ($1 from Dancing Fish Press, #2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 2M8, CANADA): This one used to be a pretty straightforward skatezine, but with this issue it seems to be mutating into an artier, more confusing form. The format is still pictures plus handwritten comments from editor Rob, but now instead of just skaters it's smiles and lampshades and deranged looking folks. Who knows what's going on here...? (D-16)

★★★★★

☐**THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SKEPTIC** Vol. 7 #3 ($15/yr from PO Box 7277, Boulder, CO 80306): A newsletter for a local skeptical society, people who get together to affirm the scientific worldview. Most of this issue is a report on a recent Creationist lecture, listing and laughingat some of the more obviously ludicrous theories. (S-8t)

★★★★★

☐**ROLLERCOASTER!** Vol. X #4 ($30/yr from ACE, PO Box 8226, Chicago, IL 60680): The slick magazine of the American Coaster Enthusiasts, who should be able to send you a brochure & membership application for an SASE. The journal is full of articles about and fantastic pictures (many in color) of things which you couldn't get me to set foot on. Standing coasters, multiple loops, 200-foot drops, suspended coasters, indoor coasters...there is a great variety these days for the person silly enough to ride them. (S-40t)

★★★★★

☐**ROLLER SPORTS REPORT** Jan. 1990 ($18/12 issues from Fred Argoff, 1800 Ocean Pkwy #B-12, Brooklyn, NY 11223-3075): A zine for fans of Roller Derby and the current banked-track sports. Fred covers the current business and action as well as printing more nostalgic items from the past—I certainly didn't realize that the sport goes back at least 50 years. There's plenty of room for subscribers to get involved in setting the course of the zine, so if you're interested, get in touch. (D-16)

★★★★★

ROUGH DRAFT #38-40 ($5 *CASH*/6 months from PO Box 6392, San Francisco, CA 94101): The San Francisco Cacophony Society is a group of folks, apparently of no fixed membership, who plan and execute out of the ordinary events. These range from cave exploration to street theatre to literary readings to theme parties to X-rated dancing. This is their calendar, telling what's going on and how to get involved. (S-2t)

★★★★★

RUBBER PUPPY #5 (75¢ from No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): A zine of strangeness, art, and goodies. I enjoyed the hints for the "carefree" (read: slovenly) housekeeper and the omnipresent booklet of White Boy poems. There are cartoons, reviews of nonexistent books, and poetry by Leo Oberst as well. Sorta playful. (D-20t)

★★★★★

RUNE #80 ($2 or The Usual from Minn-Stf, PO Box 8297, Lake St. Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55408): This club-produced science fiction zine continues to look nicer than most of the species that I get. The contents are fun too, though perhaps too overtly fannish for outsiders—although the hints for a happy move could be used by anyone. Interesting letters and an extensive fanzine review column stand out. (S-40t)

★★★★★

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #71-72 ($10/yr from Rt. 2 Box 150B, Gays Mills, WI 54631): That's to subscribe to the newsletter; membership in the Network itself costs #30 and includes the newsletter. RN is a group of single folks either in the backwoods or looking to move there, who can get in touch with each other via coded profiles to look for partners. Meanwhile, the **ADVOCATE** contains tales of people's lives and loves, and serves as an encouraging sounding board. #72 has an introduction to the network from co-ordinator Lois Fields and an interesting piece from a long-haul trucker who happens to be female. (S-8)

★★★★★

SACA NEWS Vol. 5 #3 ($7 student or $15 non-student/3 issues from PO Box 15588, Washington, DC 20003-00588): The Student Action Corps for Animals is a support group for high school and college students trying to stand up for their own and animals' rights. Their major issue right now is the right to refuse to participate in dissection in class, and they have plenty of info they can send out to students who are working on this issue. Vegetarianism and anti-fur campaigns also appear here, along with lots of networking. (S-12t)

★★★★★

THE SACRED COW SIG NEWSLETTER Nov./Dec. 1989 ($10/yr from Barbara Koksal, 3392 Clemens Dr., St. Charles, MO 63301-4440): A no-holds-barred forum for discussion. Subscribers are free to submit uncensored work on any subject, and they do. Men's rights, whether the Holocaust happened or not, rape and "asking for it" are a few of the hot topics right now. Something to offend everyone. (D-21r)

★★★★★

□**THE SACRED RECORD** Dec. 1989 ($5 for information from Peyote Way Church of God, Star Route #1 Box 7X, Willcox, AZ 85643): The Peyote Way Church of God is a small group of serious religious seekers who view peyote as a sacrament. Unfortunately, they're not of Native American extraction, and so are being harassed by the government. This has caused them to develop interesting ideas on religious freedom and the war on drugs. (S-6)

ROLLER SPORTS REPORT

Without going big budget glitzy, we've got the best banked track coverage anywhere. Join the most loyal sports fans in the world! For more information on RSR and entering subscriptions, write to the editor:

Fred Argoff
1800 Ocean Pkwy. (#B-12)
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223

...and be sure to mention that you saw this ad

★★★★★

SACRIFICIAL STATIC #2-3 ($1.60 from 1430 Willamette #254, Eugene, OR 97401): These folks responded to my last review of their collection of collages and original ranting at length, starting with "Sir, you are an ass". After reading their 7-page complaint and these two issues, I can only conclude that they are too opaque or I'm too shallow to get the point. They'll probably think I'm making fun of them here, but the best I can do is quote from their letter, listing their themes as "An intuitive exploration of archetypes...world out o balance...neurosis...cancer...subconscious mass panic." (D-20r)

★★★★★

SALON Fall 1989 ($10/4 issues from Pat Hartman, 305 W. Magnolia #386, Ft. Collins, CO 80521): A "Journal of Aesthetics" which does topic issues; this one is on censorship and obscenity. They take a broad view of the field, back to the eighteenth century and forward to Lenny Bruce and Jane's addiction, with anti-censorship quotes from prominent folks sprinkled around. I learned a few things here and was encouraged to see so much energy fighting for our right to publish. (S-50)

★★★★★

□**SALT LICK** Vol. IV #1/2 ($6 from 1804 E. 38 1/2 St., Austin, TX 78722): A litmag distinguished by the amount of handwork (stamps, stickers, hand-drawn lines, a portfolio of work from cover artist John Charles Heiser in its own wrapping) as well as its content. The latter includes some smoking poems from Robert Trammell, baseball works by Paul Shuttleworth, Blaster Al Ackerman drawings, ramblings from Gerald Burns, and more. The look and feel of a fine limited edition that's actually worth reading. (S-60t)

★★★★★

□**SAMMY'S DOT** #1 ($1 from Erik Bennett, 1828 Kilbourne Pl. NW, WASHINGTON DC 20010): A new literary zine that apparently aspires to be interesting rather than slick. They print a couple of stories and some line art in this first issue. The most interesting story is untitled and uncredited, a manuscript about being harassed by mysterious men apparently from some sort of spy agency—very appropriate to the nation's capital, I'm sure. It sort of trails off into Kafkaesque incomprehensibility. (S-14t)

★★★★★

□**SAN JUAN HORSESHOE** Vol. 13 #11-12 ($12/yr from 62081 W. Oak Grove Rd., Box 913, Montrose, CO 81402): This looks at first glance like your standard boring small-town newspaper, complete with lots of ads from local businesses. Well, the ads are real, but the rest is anything but boring—it's funny as hell. #11 has a "Superhero" theme, with plenty of news (?) about various caped and masked avengers. #12 is a Christmas issue, with notes on poached reindeer, pre-skiing stretches, heartwarming stories, and fractured advertisements. Some of this has got to be local references (or else I'm pretty stupid) but the bulk can be enjoyed by anyone who likes a good chuckle. (T-28t)

★★★★★

SASQUATCH #13 (50¢ from The Prime Minister (of Livestock and Heavy Machinery), PO Box 126, Milford, ME 04461): A newsletter of outrageous humor and opinion. #13 came out just in time for Christmas, with a holiday punker dead baby story. In poor taste, to say the least. (S-4t)

★★★★★

SCAREAPHANALIA #84 (50¢ from Michael Gingold, 55 Nordica Dr., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520): A monthly horror film zine that's been running steadily for ages. #84 looks at the latest in horror film books, including a few amusing entries, like the HBO guide which rates movies according to the reactions of the Great Unwashed. (HL-8r)

★★★★★

SCIENCE FICTION RANDOMLY #9 ($2 [checks to "Cash"] from PO Box 12705, Gainesville, FL 32604-0705): Still plugging along, now back under the leadership of the elusive Hawk, this SF zine has a good mix. There's an interview with Libertarian SF author Brad Linaweaver, some ruminating on the past year's politics, and a story from Brian Burt that, while a bit reminiscent of *Tron* with bad guys added, is still fun. Overall well-done and cheerful about the world. (S-32t)

★★★★★

SCHISM #24 (SASE from Janet Janet, PO Box 170715, San Francisco, CA 94117): This is the last issue of **SCHISM** for three years, as Janet is joining the Art Strike. It consists of multiple copies of an "Art Strike Form", a reminder list of things one is not supposed to do during those "Years Without Art". (M-12t)

★★★★★

SCORE REVIEW #20-21 ($2/4 issues from Crag Hill, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): An irregular review of experioddica and similar arts, itself experimental in parts. #20, for example, is a do-it-yourself review, while #21 takes a serious look at **INSTAR**, trying to explicate this bit of language poetry. (S-2t)

★★★★★

SCORE SHEET #29-35 ($2/4 issues from Crag Hill, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): A variety of experimental works are presented here, from photographic images to language poetry and beyond. Joe Williams in #33 plays almost cruelly with the reader, issuing instructions for one piece that cannot be followed. LeRoy Gorman presents some vaguely interesting "visual haiku" in #29. (S-2)

★★★★★

SEVERED TALES Vol. 1 #5 ($1.50 from Nocturnal Publications, 1591 Taylor St. #4, St.. Paul, MN 55104): Two short stories in the horror vein, both with prison settings. Roger Dale Trexler's "A Cut Above the Rest" required just a bit too much suspension of disbelief for me, but Anke Kriske's "Inmate" was a great psychological thriller, if a bit stomach-turning. A quick way to a few shudders. (D-12t)

★★★★★

SEX & DRUGS #4 (50¢ & a stamp from A Non Prophet Organization, 302 S. 12th St. #203, Philadelphia, PA 19107): Great title, confusing publication. This is the "propaganda" arm of ANPO, with music critiques, strange art, ranting and raving and a real cynical look back at the decade. (S-12)

★★★★★

THE SF CONVENTION REGISTER Winter 1990 ($1.50 & 45¢ SASE from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): An exhaustive listing of science fiction conventions, which have grown in popularity to the point where there are multiple choices on any given weekend. Strauss gives all the essential details, including price, venue, theme, gusts and so on. He also lists bids for forthcoming major cons. An essential SF fan reference. (S-22r)

★★★★★

THE SHADOW Dec. 1989/Jan. 1990 ($1 *CASH* from PO Box 20298, New York, NY 10009): There's a war going on on the Lower East Side, and this paper is in the front lines. The city of New York has been pulling out all the stops to get rid of undesireables like squatters and the homeless—and they've been fighting back. Clashes with the Police are almost routine now, and the squatters have their newspaper, their community center, and their plans—at least for the moment. An amazing struggle. (T-24t)

★★★★★

☐**THE SHAMAN PAPERS** Vol. 1 #1($1.50 *in stamps* from Wade Greyfox, 907 Iroquois Ct., Harrisburg, PA 17109): An introduction to the world of shamanism from someone who is modest enough not to claim to be one already, but only a student on the path. Wade offers some basic definitions, contacts with teaching groups, and quotes of interest to the shamanic worldview in this first issue. (L-4)

★★★★★

SHATTERED WIG REVIEW #4 ($3 from 523 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): A rather experimental literary magazine, from the opening letter from Blaster Al Ackerman to the closing poem by Chris Mason, a bag of cards designed to be shuffled before being read. Between there is much odd imagery, with sexual references not shied away from, poetry, collage, and stories with a political point. (HL-74)

★★★★★

☐**SHENANDOAH NEWSLETTER** Vol. 16 #9 ($10/yr from 736 W. Oklahoma St., Appleton, WI 54914): A monthly newsletter of news and notes about native peoples, mostly Native Americans, though (for example) there is a piece on Australian Aboriginal affairs in this issue as well. They cover everything, from which tribe is fighting which battles against the government to bits of social news. No-frills and rather unattractive looking, but with a strong editorial voice and a proud bearing. (S-22)

★★★★★

☐**SHITFEAST** #3-4 ($5 *CASH* from Asylum Press, GPO Box 50264, Melbourne, Vic 3001, AUSTRALIA): Once again this is a zine that would not like its name used on the envelope. These folks write about anything they can find to groove on: urban folklore, mass murderers, comics about Vietnam, celebrities who are into shit, and other cheesy stuff. A constant feature is their descriptions of various disturbed street people in and around Melbourne. Not, to say the least, a sensitive bit of reading. (D-12t)

★★★★★

SHORT FUSE #42 ($1 from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0436): An experimental litmag that's sort of collaged together, allowing each contributor to present works in their own typeface. Especially curious works in #42 include a surprisingly gut-wrenching untitled technopoem by Jerry Gordon and Philip Hughes's look at the role the kumquat has played in history. (S-22)

★★★★★

☐**SHOTGUN NEWS** Oct. 1, 1989 ($18/yr from Snell Publishing Co., PO Box 669, Hastings, NE 68902): "The Trading Post for anything that shoots" comes out 3 times a month, with wall-to-wall classified and display ads. You can buy special collectors edition pistols, M1 replacement parts, ammunition reloading kits, or (for around six thousand bucks) a working Gatling gun. Amazing. (T-220t)

★★★★★

SIGHTS & SOUNDS Vol. 2 #10-12 ($1 from 521 S. Kimbrough, Springfield, MO 65806): A relatively new entertainment and community events tabloid for the Springfield area. They seem to be happy about what they're doing, and that keeps it fresh, even in #12 which has a Christmas theme throughout. Joe Bob Briggs and golf lessons are among the unusual regular features. (T-20t)

★★★★★

SIGNAL #69 ($30/4 issues from Box 150, FI-15111 Lahti, FINLAND): This is normally a pen-pal zine, with thousands of listings around the world. But this is a special "1990 Worldwide Club Directory" issue, with about 700 listings of clubs and magazines directed at those looking for penpals or collectors of various sorts. You could spend a long, long time getting in touch with all of these people. (D-32t)

★★★★★

☐**SIGNS OF LIFE** #1 ($1.25 *CASH* from PO Box 365, Canal St. Stn., New York, NY 10013): The new publication of the New York Direct Action Committee, a group of anarchist-punk youth who are seeking to revitalize their scene. There's perhaps more anarchy than music here, although the zine does have interviews with Flux and The Apostates. There's also cruelty-free punk fashion hints, news from the East, comics, and a run down on the situation in El Salvador. (S-40)

★★★★★

☐**THE SILVER APPLE BRANCH** #2-3 ($2.50 for #2 or $5 for #3 from Janet P. Reedman, 1036 Hampshire Rd., Victoria, BC, V8S 4S9, CANADA): A literary magazine with a bent towards fantasy. Many of the stories here, such as Janet's own "The Luck of Tumelty", (in #3) have a Tokienish mythological cast to them. There are exceptions, of course, including Anke Kriske's fantastic "Closet Space" in #2. Denise Dumars and Edward Mycue are among those with poetry here, and there is also some artwork thrown in. #3 is a double issue. (S-36/S-56)

★★★★★

SKATEZINES

TRASH ZINE Dec. 1989 (45¢ postage from PO Box 59, Concord, MA 01742): A zine of almost all photos of skateboarders, printed with a minimum of commentary. Some of these shots are pretty neat, including the sequence of Kirianne Weaver executing a full flip on the board. (D-26)

★★★★★

☐**SKYWAYS** #12 ($4 from World War I Aeroplanes, Inc., 15 Crescent Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601): "The Journal of the Airplane 1920-1940" is a well-done production with lots of photos and the sort of detail of interest only to true enthusiasts—witness the article on airplane wheels in the 1930's. This issue looks at the possibility that the Italians participated in the bombing of Guernica and has some lovely photos of interwar aircraft carriers, as well as an index to the first ten issues. (S-80t)

★★★★★

SLINGSHOT Vol. 1 #32 (Donation from 700 Eshleman Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720): A militant but sensible anarchist paper that's tackling some of the tough questions of today, both within and outside the movement. There's plenty in this issue about sexism in supposedly liberal or radical circles, another thought or two on the DOA, and current news. The latter includes the latest deal on People's Park and some hanky-panky at the Berkeley student housing co-ops. (T-20t)

★★★★★

☐**SMALL PRESS MONTHLY** Vol. 2 #2 (£1 from BM BOZO, London WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): This magazine is affiliated with the Small Press Group, a coalition of all manner of small publishers who are trying to get into mutual aid. The **MONTHLY** speaks of fairs and mailouts and other goodies, but it's clear that they're suffering fro the lack of financial and manpower support that plagues many grassroots groups. Still, for those looking for news of the English small press, this is a great boon. (A4-12t)

★★★★★

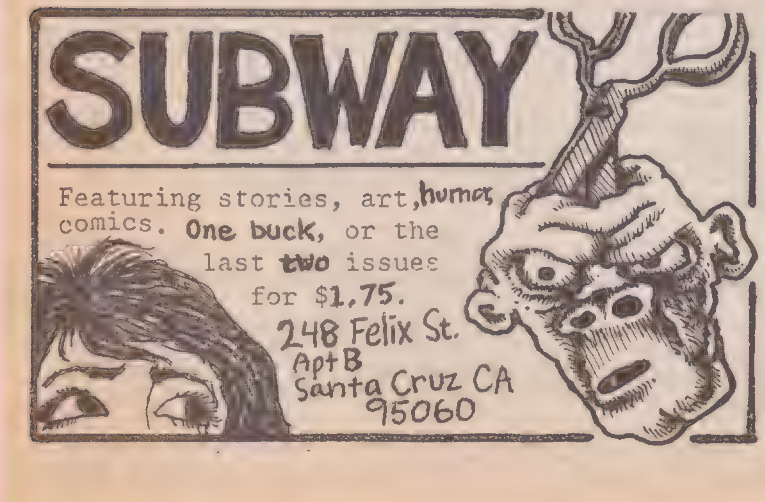
SMALL PRESS REVIEW Vol. 21 #10-11 ($18/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967): Over 200 issues old and still going strong, this is the first place to look if you want information about what's going on in the litmag and associated scenes. They publish news of contests and new zines, helpful hints from Merritt Clifton, and plenty of reviews (including a regular column from Laurel Speer, which in #11 is all about Crad Kilodney). (S-16t)

★★★★★

☐**SMOKE & FIRE NEWS** Vol. 4 #2 ($1.25 from PO Box 166, Grand Rapids, OH 43522): A publication for those interested in "living history"—getting together with similar folks to live the life of a past century for a while. They know of the SCA but their main focus is more recent, on Revolutionary and Civil War re-enactments and something called "buckskinning", which seems to mean living as a free trapper would have in the early days of white settlement on this continent. Lots of news about events and supplies here; apparently this is a quite active hobby. (T-16)

★★★★★

☐**THE SNOPSES GO CAMPING** #1 ($1 from Stephanie du Plessis, PO Box 4697, San Francisco, CA 94101): The first issue of a serialized novel which Stephanie refers to as "seemingly endless". That's OK, because this "white trash" fiction is actually pretty funny, a broad satire on Middle America and how it lives, and I'm looking forward to future issues. It's sort of a soap opera from a small Okie town, and it reminds me a bit of...well, never mind who, they'd kill me if they ever found out. (D-20)


SUBWAY
Featuring stories, art, humor, comics. One buck, or the last two issues for $1.75.
248 Felix St.
Apt B
Santa Cruz CA
95060

★★★★★

SNOW COUNTRY Jan. 1990 ($20/yr from PO Box 2072, Harland, IA 51593): A slick magazine for those who live at least part of the year above the snow line and love it. The major topic here is skiing, with how-to tips and notes on equipment. But they also profile a family who makes maple syrup, look at ski resort real estate, and investigate a palatial mansion in Aspen. Nice magazine design. (S-96t)

★★★★★

THE SOCIALIST Dec. 1989 ($5/yr from 5502 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016): The newsletter of the California branch of the Socialist Party. This is better produced than a lot of Socialist literature and perhaps has more of a sense of humor. Good coverage of international affairs mixes with pieces on what's wrong with America today and profiles of party activists. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**THE SODALITY OF HOLY ST BRIDE AND THE COMPANIONS OF ST AELRED** (Contact Martin Stewart, Magrathea, 51 Cambridge Rd, St. Albans, Herts, AL15LE, UK): This is an apa for bisexual men and women, with almost all of the members from the UK though there are some elsewhere. This being a rather touchy subject, and the apa intended to be a place to relax in understanding company, I don't expect you can just buy a copy. But if you write Martin he may be able to fill you in on joining. (A4-40)

★★★★★

SOMEPLACE LIKE EARTH #5 ($1 from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): A collection of reprints from all over, dealing with mostly political subjects, though there is also a long piece on Kevin Varner's proposed solar energy system. Fomenting revolution in the Philippines, international whaling, the problems of the Anarchist Switchboard and the list of tapes available from Chris are among the contents. (D-24r)

★★★★★

SOMETHING SHORT #2 (1 stamp from Daniel Ust, 321 Maple St. #49, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861): A short litmag intended "to showcase works of dubious talent". It does accomplish this, with the morbidity of the short stories in this issue being enough to render them dubious to many people, even those not offended by the anti-religious content. But undergrounders will probably like them. (S-8)

★★★★★

SOURCES #16 ($10/6 issues from PO Box 1076, Columbia, MD 21044): One of the best places for short New Age and metaphysical readings, even if you don't live in the D.C. area to take advantage of the many services and goods advertised here. Consider the range in #16: A channeling from Lazaris, setting up a firewalk, natural foods, "How We Can Handle the Capricorn Cycle", Taoist sexual alchemy, and the healing power of laughter, just for starters. (S-56t)

★★★★★

SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVIII #6-7 ($6/yr from John Harllee, Rte. 10 Box 52A, Florence, SC 29501): A zine of Libertarian persuasion that works by printing clips from the mainstream press that show the government in a silly or bad light. Much of #6 is devoted to the case of Kevin & Patricia Cullinane, who were harboring some folks on the underground railway for battered women & children when they got busted by all sorts of law enforcement personnel. (S-16t)

★★★★★

SPACE & TIME #77 ($5 from G. Linzner, 138 W. 70th St. #4B, New York, NY 10023-4432): A long-running and lengthy collection of speculative fiction: SF, fantasy, a bit of horror. Mary Turzillo's "Jewlly, Erased" is the main attraction of this issue: a tale of a strange future, but one where basic human drives still work. Mike Hurley's "Furnace Number Four" is a relatively original horror tale, and Marian Allan's poem "The Ballad of Nell Blaine" is also quite good. Lots of other stuff to choose from here as well. (D-118t)

★★★★★

☐**SPECTRUM** #10 ($2.75 from Roger Windsor, 58 Webster St., Laconia, NH 03246): "The Wholistic News Magazine", this one collects health-related items from all over. Most is presented in short bites (a couple of paragraphs) with a reference for more information. AIDS therapies, male menopause, Aromatherapy, the Ivory ban, cholesterol, natural foods, and marijuana-related memory loss are among the topics in this issue. There's also a lengthy interview with Raphael Ornstein, MD. (S-36t)

★★★★★

THE SPIRITUAL REVOLUTIONARY Vol. 1 #9 ($3 from S/R Press, PO Box 60327, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0327): Kyle Griffith, editor of **TSR**, is also the author of **WAR IN HEAVEN**, a channeled work with a new slant on Life, The Universe, and Everything. The newsletter is his way to communicate with other people looking into the war between the Theocrats and the Invisible College, and the cutting edge of this "radical wing of the New Age movement". It's basically a letterzine, with comments from readers and responses by Kyle and Luna Griffith. (S-20)

★★★★★

SPROCKETS #6 ($4.95 from Martin Klug, 7735 Attingham Ln., St. Louis, MO 63119): A solid yearly film magazine. This issue has a couple of linked pieces on celebrities being stalked by fans and other interactions between the famous and the unknown. There's a profile of actress Deborah Foreman with reviews of her movies and a whole pile of filmographies for minor stars such as Dyanne Thorne and Claudia Jennings. Things wrap up with movie and zine reviews and a pile of letters. (D-75r)

★★★★★

THE STAMP ACT Fall 1989 ($2 from Steven Bryan Bieler, 7307 - 6th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117): Formerly **THE RUBBER FANZINE**, this one has a new name and a new editor but the same fine selection of stampagraphic work. This issue includes Al Ackerman using a carrot, a lovely postcard from Candi Strecker, exuberant dancers by Vivian Jean, and of course Irma. Fun (and probably even more fun if you participate). (S-20)

★★★★★

STAR ROUTE JOURNAL Vol. 7 #11 ($10/yr from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560-1451): A journal of the culture of the Mateel, an area in California where the hippies are still holding out, trying to do good and live well, while the state of California jackboots through searching for dope. Well, that's one aspect of this paper, anyhow. Others are the oral history it contains, the poetry, the comics, the silliness, the anarchist manifesto (strictly tongue in cheek), and the letters. One of my favorites. (T-28t)

★★★★★

THE STERLING WEB Vol. 1 #3 ($5.50 from PO Box 38383, Tallahassee, FL 32315): A journal of fantastic and horrific short stories and poetry. William Gorman's "Awaiting Marilyn" is a real kick in the guts, a powerful short story employing modern mythology and a descent into madness. Nikki Patrick presents "The Guys Up The Road", a UFO tale which is much more lighthearted. Mary Elizabeth Counselman-Vinyard is the featured poet in this issue. (S-80)

★★★★★

THE STEWART REPORT #2-3 (70¢ from Algernon Stewart, 5 W. 8th St. #317, New York, NY 10011-9001): An apazine escaped from the Turbo-Charged Party Animal Apa. Much of it is in the form of mailing comments, although Algy does try to make them accessible to outsiders. There is also some oblique stuff on his life as an actor and a poem in #2. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**THE STONE** (Free from PO Box 443, Island Pond, VT 05846): An evangelical tabloid from a group which apparently originated in France but has outposts all over the place now. They seem to be trying to build a new church for the final days, although I didn't follow all the ins and outs of their interpretation of Biblical prophecy here. What comes through is their strong faith and community. (T-32t)

★★★★★

□**THE STONE & SLING** Vol. 1 #4-6 (Donation from Walt Franklin, RD2, Box 37, Rexville, NY 14877): Allegany County is poor, rural, and underpopulated. What a coincidence that it's also where our state government wants to put a nuclear waste dump. Well, quite a number of the residents are fighting back, organizing civil disobedience, and trying to put a stop to this. This newsletter contains poetry, essays, and artwork addressed to the nuke dump issue. (S-12)

★★★★★

STORIES FROM THE WINDOW #2 ($1 from Jay Curkendall, 741 N. Branciforte, Santa Cruz, CA 95062): A publication of short stories and collages, quite well done. I quite enjoyed Jay's translated Uncle Bunny stories in this issue. (They were originally in Spanish, being Nicaraguan folklore). Also check out Brian Grimm's "An Old Friend". A good mix of traditional modes and new ideas. (D-24t)

★★★★★

STORM WARNING #13 ($1 from VVAW(AI), 4710 University Way NE #1612, Seattle, WA 98105): With the new law against flag-burning, Vietnam Veterans Against the War (Anti-Imperialist) have found a dramatic issue to focus on in their struggle to defeat creeping fascism in Amerikkka (their spelling). They've done public flag-burnings, and the newsletter has their analysis of this law, noting the parallels between forced patriotism here and now and what happened in Germany 50 years ago. (D-20t)

★★★★★

□**SUBJECT TO CHANGE** #10 ($2 from 37 Pearson Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 1G3, CANADA): This is the newsletter of the Toronto Resistance Community, a group dedicated to civil disobedience and other nonviolent means of opposing the Establishment in Toronto. This issue looks back over their first year of operation, and also has some interesting thoughts on how the Operation Rescue actions fit (or don't fit) into the spectrum of CD. (S-28t)

★★★★★

□**SUBJECTS OBJECTS** #6 ($7 from Brian Goldberg, c/o Drift Distribution, 83 Warren St. #5, New York, NY 10007-1057): An "annual journal of cultural theory", which has now ceased publication, though Brian has copies left. It's chewy stuff, ranging from an examination of Adorno's work as a grand theory to "Theorizing a Poetics of Resistance: Notes on Kristeva's *Semiotic*". Very academic, though occasionally playful, and not directed at the unintiated. (HL-88t)

★★★★★

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #27-28 (25¢ & a stamp for #27, or 30¢ & a stamp for #28, from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): More collections of newords from Geof, who I can just see searching through his mail with a butterfly net. #27 is titled "F_LUX" and contains three other terms that seem to have an academic sound—is "Spemmen" any more alien than "Trochee"? The second issue, "Anthropornology" is a dirty mini-poem by John Graywood. (M-4)

★★★★★

SUBURBAN NIGHTMARE COME TRUE #3 ($1 (?) from 203 E. 31st St. #311, Austin, TX 78705): A mix of art, music and poetry, with an underground SubGenius influence. It comes out of the scene but is trying to reach more mainstream folks, although with distribution squabbles at the University of Texas this may be tough. Anyhow, there's poetry here from Richard F. Hay and Paul Weinman, an article on ska and an interview with ST-37, and some truly bizarre art including a great psychedelic autopsy cover. (S-24)

★★★★★

SUCCESSFUL MAGAZINE PUBLISHING Nov./Dec. 1989 ($30/6 issues from Randall Publishing Co., PO Box 2029, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403): A magazine for folks who put out other magazines—big, slick, colorful magazines. While mainly out of our range, it does sometimes contain useful layout ideas and leads to services that could help the larger fanzines. (S-64t)

★★★★★

SUDS 'N' STUFF #65 ($10/12 issues from PO Box 566402, Oceanside, CA 92056): Christmas issue of the newsletter of Beer Drinkers International. It's a mix of beer reviews, beer news, and pictures of unusual bottles and other beeraphanalia. (S-8t)

★★★★★

SUGAO #2 ($2 from Max, 2-289 Sekiya-honson-cho, Niigate-shi 951 JAPAN): A small zine of anarchy and reviews. Max reprints bits of Emma Goldman and other classics, and reviews current zines and music from both Japan and the US. This is the only place that I see live reviews of Japanese shows. A true multilingual zine, containing sections in French and German as well as English and Japanese. Also has a sticker and other goodies. (M-36)

★★★★★

□**THE SUN TEMPLE JOURNAL** Winter 1989 ($4/yr from PO Box 74296, Los Angeles, CA 90004): A small magazine of Atenism, the ancient monotheistic religion of Egypt. These people seem to be at least as serious as the modern Druids in their quest to refound their faith. This issue discusses Moses as an Atenite and reprints an article on the ethics of veganism. (D-16)

★★★★★

THE SURVIVOR Vol. 7 #7 ($10/12 issues from Atlan Formularies, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): A tabloid put out by Kurt Saxon, author of **THE POOR MAN'S JAMES BOND** and other books. He reprints lots of home workshop projects from decades past, but also discusses new ideas like a toilet flushed with ground up wood scraps and various improvised weapons. From the letters its clear that the latter attract most of his readers, but there's also lots here on eating cheaply and getting along after the collapse. (T-16)

★★★★★

☐**SWEAT POTATO** #1 ($1 from Fletcher Moore, MTSU PO Box 8565, Murfreesboro, TN 37132): A new handwritten zine which seems to feel that society needs to be interfered with a bit. The first issue recommends that all readers go out and superglue the locks of the nearest Burger King, and has a long list of antisocial Xmas season activities. They also print short fiction, an essay on why people read cereal boxes, and other goodies. (D-20)

★★★★★

TAPE UPDATE Vol. 2 #13-14 (50¢ from Brian Tramel, 1806 Self Cir. #B, Jonesboro, AR 72401): A mini about wrestling, with an eye towards those who are into videotapes, since Brian has some hundreds of them to sell. #14 also includes the results of the TU annual poll. (M-16r)

★★★★★

TAPROOT #14 ($2.50 from Robert Drake, Burning Press, PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): A special theme issue of this experimental language zine called **XMECTRIC TEXT**. The contributors were limited to the letters ABCDEHIMOTUVWXYZ (why those letters? Who knows?). Many of the pieces here didn't do much more for me than looking at a game of Scrabble, but a few—notably Sloy's "Myth" manage to work within the limits imposed and still say something interesting. Nice book design emphasizes the uncertain nature of this limited language. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

☐**TATTOO GAZETTE** Vol. 1 #3 ($4 from Clayton Hats, 161 Essex St., New York, NY 10002): Put out by the Tattoo Society of New York, this one is all in black and white but striking nonetheless. It features a lot of photos, some info on sterilizing tattoo instruments, notes on what work is hot, and notes from Society events, as well as some interesting material on the spiritual side of tattooing. To join and get the magazine as well as admission to monthly meetings is $30. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**TEA TALK** Vol. 1 #3 ($3.50 from 419 N. Larchmont Blvd. #225, Los Angeles, CA 90004): You might think the subject here is obvious, and perhaps it is, but only one page is devoted to discussing actual types of tea and their preparation. The rest looks at artistic teapots, tea in literature, and places which serve elegant teas in the Los Angeles area. (S-8t)

★★★★★

TEEN PUNKS IN HEAT #2 ($1.50 & Age Statement [NO TRADES] from Roadkill Records, PO Box 37, Prospect Heights, IL 60070): A sexzine from the punk scene, full of nude photos (unfortunately the printing isn't great) and steamy fantasy (and perhaps reality) stories. They also review a few zines, music, and porno flicks,, and print a crossword for the dirty-minded. (D-36t)

★★★★★

TEMPLE OF SCHLOCK #20 ($1 from Chris Poggiali, 225 Mosley Dr., Syracuse, NY 13206): Yes, TOS is back with a new editor and a new lease on life, looking at those movies you love to hate. This issue has an interview with schlockmeister Terry Levene, plus an essay on great monsters like Karloff and Lugosi. They also review movies like *The Young Cycle Girls* and report on the state of 42nd Street. (D-12r)

★★★★★

THE TEST BANNER Vol. 2 #7 (Donation from American peace Test, PO Box 26725, Las Vegas, NV 89126): These are the folks who co-ordinate the big protest events at the Nevada Nuclear Test Site, with the goal of achieving a comprehensive test ban treaty. Right now they're hurting for money to continue this effort. This issue has the preliminary plans for this Spring's actions. (T-8t)

★★★★★

THE TEXAS SF INQUIRER #30-32 ($7.50/6 issues from PO Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766): The genzine of the Fandom Association of Central Texas is showing some signs of coming back to life under the joint editorship of Alexander Slate and Dale Denton. #32 has some Worldcon gossip, a few book reviews, and some FACT history, among other things. (S-16t)

★★★★★

THIS MONTH IN MAINE LITERATURE Vol. IV #10-11 ($20/yr from Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, 19D Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): The MWPA is a support group for those involved in Maine's writing community. In addition to lots of reviews and members prices on books, they publish some feature articles. The November issue has a comparative review of legal guides for writers and some advice on contract negotiations. December/January has marketing ideas for authors. (T-12t)

★★★★★

☐**THE THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN** #189 ($20/yr from 156 Belknap St., Concord, MA 01742): A quarterly newsletter which has been coming out for nearly fifty years now, concentrating on the life and works of Henry David Thoreau. The articles are generally on the scholarly side, though there are also lighter pieces and some bits of purely historical interest (such as the obituary of his sister reprinted in this issue). Particularly good are the pages looking at his influence on such figures as Gandhi and John Hargrave. (S-8r)

★★★★★

THE THOUGHT Vol. 9 #10-11 ($1 from The Philosophers Guild, PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): A collection of essays and articles from a variety of independent thinkers, most from somewhere on the Libertarian side of things. #11 includes Ron Tobin's arguments against Santa Claus and Robert Bidinotto's critique of the current leadership of the Objectivist movement. (S-22)

★★★★★

THOUGHT PARADE #2 ($1 from Lynn Perry, PO Box 1241, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054): A collection of essays, poetry and stories from folks on the literary margins. Roy Harper tells of a tragedy at a rural tollbooth, Sigmund Weiss writes of the broad sweep of history, someone using the name "Psycho!" complains about most everything from an ultra-cynical point of view. Poets include Lainie Duro and Paul Weinman. Quite a wide mix of stuff here. (S-24t)

★★★★★

THRUST #35 ($3 from 8217 Langport Terr., Gaithersberg, MD 20877): A science fiction semiprozine which continues to find opinions to enrage and provoke. In #35, the provocations come mainly from the right, thanks to an interview with Martin Caidin and the first of a new column by Poul Anderson. Ian Watson provides a heroic overview of 1988's published SF, while Charles Sheffield recounts his own "Personal Odyssey" in the field. A very enjoyable production. (S-32t)

★★★★★

THUNDERBOW II #4-5 ($15/yr [SASE for sample] from PO Box 185, Wheatridge, CO 80034-0185): A no-frills pagan zine with a wide-ranging bunch of information. They summarize news stories on the state of the planet as well as printing short articles about things like Runes or the I Ching. In addition, the parent Church of Seven Arrows has a number of courses and activities locally. (S-6)

★★★★★

TICKET Vol. 2 #1 (SASE from 2108A Jefferson Park Ave., Charlottesville, VA 22903-3008): Put out by Christopher Martin, this one seems to vary in content and intent form issue to issue. #1 is very simple: photos of two young people and a dedication wishing them a better world in the future. (S-1)

★★★★★

☐**TIGHTWIRE** Vol. 23 #4 ($10/yr *Canadian MO* from PO Box 515, Kingston, ONT, K7L 4W7, CANADA): A magazine produced completely by the women at Canada's Prison For Women in Kingston. The mix of material is pretty wide, from stories, artwork and poetry to serious discussions of what's wrong in the prison system. Spirits seem to be generally pretty high despite the problems, and it's clear that any support would be well appreciated. (S-52)

★★★★★

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE Jan. 1990 ($2 from 1310 Chelton Dr., Kent, OH 44240): A literary zine that has quite a bit of deadpan humor lurking in it as well as travelogues, jokes, comics, and who knows what else. The major feature is a long and rambling story by Ted Lyons, who is an engaging if somewhat long-winded writer. I find I'm liking this more with each passing issue; it tends to grow on you. (S-56t)

★★★★★

THE TORCH #135 ($7/6 issues from PO Box 373, Harrison, AR 72601): Odious garbage from the Christian Identity folks. They stand firmly opposed to "race-mixing, abortion, homosexuality, illegal aliens and Secular Humanism". This issue is full of gleeful paranoia about AIDS killing off all the blacks and notes on why James Earl Ray must be innocent. (T-12t)

★★★★★

□**TOURIST TRAP** ($2 (?) from Kevin, PO Box 1033, Newport, RI 02840): This one seems to be rooted in the music scene—there's zine and record reviews and an interview with Hunger Artist in this issue—but they've branched out. A good chunk of the content is about social issues, with an article on factory egg farming and another on rape, for example, as well as a piece on global warming. They also print art and poetry and are looking to expand their literary content. (S-24)

★★★★★

TRAJECTORIES #5 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 49249, Austin, TX 78765): Back after a rather long absence, this SF tabloid still has plenty of features to choose from. They print short stories, reviews (including fanzine ones from FF), letters, comics, and other odds and ends. Best bets in this issue include Richard Renfrew's hard-SF "A Collision Course", the interview with Robert Anton Wilson, and the full page of art from Martin Wagner. (T-32t)

★★★★★

TRANET #61 ($30/yr from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): A scan through the world of alternative and appropriate technologies with news items from all over the world. Many of these give sources and references; you can access a vast network of AT people through **TRANET**. Typical topics include wood stoves, RU-486, the Greens, alternative economics, and hand-operated rice hullers. (S-16t)

★★★★★

TRANSITIONS ABROAD Jan./Feb. 1990 ($4.50 from 18 Hulst Rd., Box 344, Amherst, MA 01004): This is for people who want to travel but don't want to be tourists. They focus on opportunities to live, work and study overseas, with plenty of ads from various programs in every issue. This time they focus on the Pacific Rim, with advice for travelers to Bali, India, Bangkok and Japan, to name a few. (S-62t)

★★★★★

TRAVEL VIEW ONE Jan./Feb./Mar. 1990 ($4 from Linda Yurkoski, PO Box 866, Penticton, BC, V2A 7G1, CANADA): A penpal newsletter that also features essays and stories from those listed. In this issue that includes some ideas on the joys of shortwave radio as well as a firsthand view of Bali. Linda also reviews books and magazines. Penpal listings are $3, or free for subscribers. (S-14)

★★★★★

THE TRUTH SEEKER Vol. 1 #5 ($4 from PO Box 2832, San Diego, CA 92112-2832): This long-running (over 100 years) freethought journal recently had a facelift, and is now a slick-covered bimonthly magazine, with each issue focused on a particular topic. This time around, it's mostly drugs and health, from the drug war to the evidence that HIV is not the cause of AIDS. They've got an impressive list of authors and there is quite a bit of information here that's from well off the beaten path. (S-56t)

★★★★★

TURNING THE TIDE Vol. III #1 (50¢ from PO Box 10488, Burbank, CA 91510): The newsletter of People Against Racist Terror, a group from the music scene trying to get rid of the racists that infest parts of it. This issue provides an extensive contact list of other anti-racist groups, as well as the latest news from Southern California. (S-8)

★★★★★

TWO-FISTED FUCK BEAST #4-5 (SASE from Greg Petix, 1323 N. Norton, Tucson, AZ 85719): Most of this little zine is not as offensive as the title, just...strange. There's a continuing (although not continuous) post-nuclear cockroach story in the centerfold of these two issues. #5 is largely filled by the story "The Sixth Dimension", a romp through a strange bar peopled with unlikely characters from history and literature. (D-4r)

★★★★★

TWO TON SANTA #40 ($1 from PO Box 303, Durham, NH 03824): The normal cover price of this is 5¢, but that's the cost for the special edition, which plays Christmas music when opened—the first musical zine I've received. When the novelty wears off you can appreciate the deadpan humor of Dom Leone's story or the surreal poetry of Melissa Jasper. (D-4t)

★★★★★

TYG #50 ($1 from Paul Gardener, PO Box 97, Brattleboro, VT 05301): Paul is the US agent for this postal Diplomacy zine, published in England by Mark Nelson. In addition to the usual stuff on games he's currently running, Mark publishes quite a few letters that actually address strategy and tactics. This issue also features complete rules and a map for a Middle Earth variant game and reviews of other variants. One of the more ambitious Dipzines I've seen. (A5-60r)

★★★★★

UFO Vol. 5 #1 ($5 from 1800 S. Robertson #355, Los Angeles, CA 90035): A slick magazine of Ufological research and related subjects. This issue has a special section focusing on the Soviet UFO sighting reported by Tass. Outside of that, there's more discussion of government disinformation activities in the field, an extensive contact section, and a review of the new movie *Communion*. (S-48t)

★★★★★

U&lc Vol. 16 #4 ($20/yr from ITC, 2 Hammarskjold Plaza, New York, NY 10017): This juicy oversized pub is in part a way for the International Typeface Corporation to show off its wares. But there are also useful articles on the ins and outs of typesetting, plus lovely large displays of unusual fonts and posters. If you have a ton of money to invest they carry ads from all the top computer typesetting outfits as well. (O-76t)

★★★★★

☐**THE UNDERGROUND** #1-3 (SASE (?) from Scott Russell, Asbury College/CPO, Wilmore, KY 40390-1198): There's some musical and other review content here, but this basically is a place for Scott to cut loose with opinions from a Christian point of view. Some of these, such as his anti-abortion screed in #1, are bound to be unpopular; the same goes for his later look at homosexuals. Not a zine for those who want to live loose. (L-2)

★★★★★

THE UNDERGROUND FILM BULLETIN #9 ($3 from PO Box 1589, New York, NY 10009): Probably the best place around to dip into the "cinema of transgression", films from the shock/revolutionary underground in New York City. This issue has an appreciation of filmmaker Jack Smith and memories of Lung Leg, both by Nick Zedd. Jeri Rossi describes a Joe Coleman performance piece in Boston that led to a lot of trouble, and there's a diatribe (again by Zedd) on the "neo-Reactionary" nature of Alyce Wittenstein's films. Editor Orion Jeriko interviews Art Roussimoff to round things out. (S-52)

★★★★★

THE UNICORN Vol. XIII #2 ($10/yr from The Rowan Tree Church, PO Box 5514, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A long-running pagan publication overseen in part by Andrius, who happens to be a unicorn and who does the lead editorial each issue. #2 features the first part of a story, sort of a historical romance, by Donna Lyon Rhose, plus letters, herbalism and more. (S-10t)

★★★★★

THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH O' FUN TIMES Vol. 1 #6 (SASE from 4326 Woodstock Blvd. #666, Portland, OR 97206-6270): Fun is the main force in the universe, at least according to these folks. (Incidentally, they ask that you send "whatever's fun" in return for a copy). Each issue carries a couple of silly news stories plus letters from readers in which the philosophy and meaning of fun is discussed. (S-4t)

★★★★★

THE UNMENTIONABLE #10 ($1.50 from kelina, PO Box 7718, Berkeley, CA 94707): A mix of humor and everyday life, plus a few things that don't seem to quite fit in, like raisins in tomato soup. They feature recipes, hobo signs, free things through the mail, a rather sardonic personal planner, t-shirt designs, and Kipling poetry as part of the stew of this issue. Formerly **SOMEOFUS** zine. (D-40r)

★★★★★

UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. IX #1 ($3 from PO Box 11691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): A conservative journal that occasionally slides into conspiracy theory in their efforts to identify and isolate threats to the Constitution. This issue has a lot of anti-usury stuff, including a look at the good old days when the Catholic Church still enforced anti-usury regulations. UO is always a good source of news on the various court cases against members of the Constitutionalist movement. (S-24t)

★★★★★

☐**UP YOUR NOSE** #1 (20¢ & a stamp from Happydog Productions, 3609 Kent Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055): A high school underground that's mostly in-jokes and attempts to identify "cool" things in and around Cumberland Valley High School. Editor Tories writes "I was fed up with lame articles about lame/fake things and people". (S-2)

★★★★★

USSR NEWS BRIEF No. 17/18-19/20 1989 ($40/yr from Das Land und die Welt, eV, Schwanthalerstrasse 73, 8000 Munchen 2, WEST GERMANY): Human rights news from the USSR. Drawing on a variety of sources, these folks report on everything from the situation of the Crimean Tatars to the fate of those incarcerated in psychiatric hospitals. A blow-by-blow description of what remains of the ugly side of socialism. (A5-50t)

★★★★★

UTNE READER #37 ($18/6 issues from PO Box 1974, Marion, OH 43306-2074): It seems to me that perhaps I've been too harsh on **UTNE**, due to being misled by their subtitle "The best of the alternative press". For those of us immersed in the alternative press, their connection with most of it still seems pretty tenuous. However, they do a good job of covering some alternative issues. Here they round up a few articles on growing older and a few on Native American problems, together with their short surveys of just a wee bit of the alternative press. (S-144t)

★★★★★

☐**UWAP NEWSLETTER** #1/2 ($10/yr from Forbes Quadrangle 3T01, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260): This one comes from the fledgling Union of Writers of the African Peoples, a group which is bringing together folks from all over that continent as well as those living in exile. In addition to organizational matters, they list quite a number of events and publications of interest, and bring to our attention a case of a poet detained in Malawi for no good reason. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**VAGINA RODEO** #1 ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104): I'm not sure I see how this "Fanzine of Cultural Weirdness" differs from all of Peter's other publications, but here it is. It's mostly essays and rants, on such topics as whether women control the world and men who get excited over baseball uniforms. Sex is a constant theme here, treated with a sort of smirking amusement. (D-16r)

★★★★★

THE VAMPIRE JOURNAL #5 ($5.90 from Baker Street Publications, PO Box 994, Metairie, LA 70004): This one is for folks who are fascinated by vampires in all their guises. There are news clippings, reviews, and original short fiction. There's also a longish article by Peter Heiss, who tracked down various modern blood-drinkers, and an interview with Leilah Wendell. (D-142r)

★★★★★

THE VASSAR SPECTATOR Vol. VIII #1 ($20/yr from PO Box 279, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601): This one was banned at Vassar last year for publishing articles which the liberals on campus found offensive, but they're back now—and as conservative as ever, which will probably still strike some as offensive. The main feature here is an interview with Robert Bork. I was also interested to note that the Vassar student government refused to recognize Future Housewives of America as a student group. (T-20t)

★★★★★

VDT NEWS Vol. VI #6 ($87/6 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Stn., New York, NY 10163): Every time I read an issue of this I want to stop writing for a while. It tracks all the various (and often conflicting) research and laws on the health effects of using Video Display Terminals on a steady basis, from eyestrain to repetitive stress injuries. Every article comes with references, and they keep track of all the latest news. (S-12t)

★★★★★

☐**VECTOR** #151 ($20/yr from Cy Chauvin, 14248 Wilfred, Detroit, MI 48213): Cy is the U.S. agent for this, "The Critical Journal of the British Science Fiction Association". The title describes it well, with the bulk of the contents being book reviews, written with an eye towards actually saying something. There's an article by Brian Aldiss and an interview with Ramsey Campbell; the new editors are trying to extend their net to cover horror as well as SF and fantasy. (A4-24t)

★★★★★

☐**VEGETARIAN WORLD** Vol. 2 #9 ($6/6 issues from #201 - 102 Wall St., Saskatoon, Sask., S7K 1N4, CANADA): A collection of articles on topics from hazardous waste in the home to the Green Party in the U.S. to alternatives to animal testing of cosmetics. They reprint material from all over and try to act as a networking center for this chunk of the movement. Also on the local level they run a recycling project. (D-12t)

★★★★★

☐**VERSION 90** #1 ($$10 from 107 Brighton Ave., Allston, MA 02134): A new joint effort by several of the leading lights of the Boston small press scene, V90 is a medley of culture and cultural critique. It leads off with an interview with the principals of Xexoxial Endarchy, touches base with "Dillinger" poet Todd Moore, sits down with David Greenberger of **DUPLEX PLANET**, and follows David Prescott through the music scene in Eastern Europe. Andrew Herman dissects **LIPSTICK TRACES**, and there are reviews of some other fat zines in the back. Nice layout, good use of photography, a potential winner in this impressive perfect-bound format. (S-154t)

★★★★★

A VERY SMALL MAGAZINE #11 ($1 from Beth Blevins, 1000 Sixth St. SW, Washington, DC 20024): A mini-sized literary zine which tends towards the humorous side of thing. This issue has a well-footnoted story called simply "Plagiarism" and an ad for THE STEPFORD HUSBANDS. I like **AVSM**; it's bite-sized but contains a lot of little gems. (M-16t)

★★★★★

VIEW FROM THE LEDGE #30 (Send clippings to Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 57141, Washington, DC 20037): A collection of news stories from the "submainstream". This issue seems to be largely devoted to crime and incompetent criminals, from the two who broke into a prison to the guy arrested for talking dirty to a police dog. Plenty of human foibles here, and lots of reminders that civilization is only a veneer. You can only get on the mailing list by sending bizarre stories from your own local papers. (S-4r)

★★★★★

□**VIEWS** Vol. 6 #3-4 ($15/yr from Toronto Photographers Workshop, 80 Spadina Ave. #310, Toronto, ONT, M5V 2J3, CANADA): A slick little journal of Canadian fine arts photography. There's more criticism than photography here, with reviews of shows, thoughts on trying to be a photographer on assignment in Nicaragua, and so on. Very nicely put together. (S-16t)

★★★★★

□**VINCY RIGHTS** #1 ($1 from St. Vincent and the Grenadines Human Rights Association, PO Box 614, Halifax St., Kingstown, ST VINCENT): Another look at police brutality and harsh punishments in the Caribbean. They've been fighting abuses for about three years, but only now have the money to publish. The case of Grafton Bascombe, reported here, is only the latest in a series of suspicious goings-on in the US-controlled Grenada of today. (S-6t)

★★★★★

□**VIRGINIA LITERARY REVIEW** Vol. XI #2 ($2 (?) from Box 413, Newcomb Hall Stn., Charlottesville, VA 22901): A student-run literary publication that's not officially affiliated with the University of Virginia. There's some nice work here, including Howard Yoon's scary portrait of an American family "A Drumstick of Burnt Sienna" and Nick Yasinski's contemplative poem "Swimming in Walden". (S-40t)

★★★★★

□**VIRUS 23** #0 ($3 (?) from Box 46, Red Deer, AB, T4N 5E7, CANADA): This is a test run of the zine and they might prefer interesting stuff to money. Then again, money never hurts. There's a cyberpunkish feel here, helped along by interviews with William Gibson and Jonathan Levine, who helps out at Survival Research Laboratories. There's also reviews of strange music and books, arty comics, fiction, poetry, brain machines, magick, and thoughts on television from TOPY. A great medley from the edges of reality (S-68t)

★★★★★

VOICE OF REVOLUTION #80-81 ($15/yr from USMLO, 3942 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL 60634): I can't always keep the alphabet soup of communist splinter groups in this country straight, but it appears that the only society the US Marxist-leninist Organization approves of is that of Albania, which may tell cognoscenti something. They publish paeans to Albania and stories attacking the collaboration between Bush and Gorbachev as bad for the working class. (S-6t)

★★★★★

VOICES FROM SPIRIT Vol. 3 #6 ($4 from Gerald Polley, PO Box 5155, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A publication from a group which spends time talking to dead people through the miracle of channeling. In #6, they get the Virgin Mary on the line, and proceed to ask her a bunch of spiritual questions. They also present a variety of New Age and magickal texts and essays. (S-8r)

★★★★★

VOID! #11 ($2 from J.J. Haws, 208 Catalpa, Lexington, KY 40502): A zine from the margins, with a variety of artistic and political contents. There's a cartoon of "Toto and Tu Tu with Tatoo and U2" here, a reprint of Bob Black's speech on the Libertarian as Conservative, an old poster from Anti-Authoritarians Anonymous, some new comic, poetry, ranting and an open letter to Jesus Christ. Also available for the same price is **THE BEST OF VOID! MAGAZINE 1-10.** (S024)

★★★★★

THE VOLUNTARYIST #42 ($3 from PO Box 1275, Gramling, SC 29348): A journal of Libertarian analysis and opinion, although editor Carl Watner may not use that term to describe himself any more. The current issue looks at the underground railroad protecting mothers and abused children, comparing it to the one used to free slaves over a century ago. It also suggests that "Freer is safer" when it comes to government regulations. (S-8t)

★★★★★

□**VOX POPULI** (50¢ (?) from Jennifer Wiseman, 515 Kendall Ln., DeKalb, IL 60115): A collection of short writings, including poetry, prose and some things in between. These are pasted down on the page every which way, leading to much turning of the zine and puzzling things out. Alienation and the modern world seem to be popular themes here, with the writers not too sure what they're expressing but knowing they don't like it. Includes one of the omnipresent White Boy minibooks. (S-8)

★★★★★

WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS Vol. 1 #12 ($12/12 issues from PO Box 3511, Madison, WI 53704): With a format patterned after the most outrageous of the supermarket tabloids, **WSWN** tries to bring forth a few chuckles while looking at the current struggles between workers and management. #12 reports on an attempt to use Elvis to save the AFL-CIO and traces a current trend to its logical conclusion in the hiring of deformed mutants for dangerous jobs. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**WAITING FOR JUSTICE** Vol. 1 #1-2 (25¢ postage from Shannon Wheeler, 2150 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704): A newsletter for those who enjoyed the **WAITING FOR JUSTICE** book, a collection of Shannon Wheeler's cartoons and columns by Carolyn Jones. It's pretty light-hearted, with cute Q&A and some movie reviews. Probably the best way to get on the mailing list is to buy the book for $4.95 [see FF33 p.72]. (S-4t)

★★★★★

WAKELEY'S REALISMS #3 ($2.50 from 9 Oregon Ave., Palmyra, NJ 08065): Personal writings from Joseph Wakeley. It's hard to know precisely where he's coming from, but this issue is subtitled "An Experience With Filipino Women Emmigrating to America", and it's about his being nearly propositioned by someone who wanted to get married so as to be able to remain in the country. A bit scattered, and a bit sad. (S-5)

★★★★★

WALK AWAY Vol. 1 #3 ($10/yr from Simon, Porteous & Associates, PO Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230): A publication aimed at those who have walked away from cults, or are at least thinking about it. The overall tone is almost evangelical; it consists mostly of public testimony by those who were once in the mainstream of fundamentalism but have themselves gotten out. They also review books of interest, from first-person accounts to scholarly analyses. (S-4t)

★★★★★

W.A.M.M. Vol. 8 #3-4 ($30/yr from 3255 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55408): The newsletter of Women Against Military Madness, and activist networking group. #4 has some notes on war toys and why they are bad plus encouraging thoughts on activism now that Gorby has remade part of the world. As always there are plenty of calendar and contact notes. (S-8t)

★★★★★

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($15/yr from American Educational Trust, PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20009): These people were suggesting that we should distance ourselves from the government of Israel before that became a popular them in the mass media. They cover events all over the Mideast, reprinting stories from all over and offer their own syntheses of the news. The January issue takes one more look at the chances for peace in the Israeli-occupied territories. (S-58t)

★★★★★

WE ARE THE WEIRD Vol. V #2 ($6/26 issues from Paladin Corporation, PO Box 2002, Dallas, TX 75221): This is the Joe Bob Briggs newsletter, filled with reviews of screwy movies, reviews of other underground stuff like publications and t-shirts, giveaway offers and Joe Bob's own unique personality. Going after prairie dogs with an AK-47 may offend some folks, but his readers take it in stride. Going weekly, so that price may be low, but it'll get you some issues anyhow. (T-8t)

* * *

THE WEEDEATER #4 (1 25¢ stamp from USF #3146, Tampa, FL 33620): A variety of anti-authoritarian news. Some of it is focused on the University of Florida, for example, the story on the President's new house. But they also present analyses of world events (including the "change" in Eastern Europe and the effects of Hurricane Hugo) and review a batch of anarchist zines. (S-8r)

* * *

□**WESLEYAN REVIEW** Vol. VII #1-2 ($1 from 5403 Wesleyan Station, Middletown, CT 06457): This is Wesleyan's conservative college paper, one of a growing number across the land. They feature more serious analysis and less snide one-liners than some of the others in the genre. #1 has a lot of support for the war on drugs. #2 puts forth a defense of free speech against the current attempts to limit thought on campus to acceptable topics. There's lots more in each issue, intelligent if often infuriating to those of us on the left. (S-24t)

* * *

WE THE PEOPLE #41-42 ($3 from Michael Wolff, PO Box 704, S. Houston, TX 77587-0704): An apa for folks who enjoy discussions about contemporary politics. Of course, that's not all that's here; Jim Downard is writing an alternative-history novel as a chunk of his contribution, for example, while others talk about retail sales or B-2 planes. But the American political scene is the prime topic, with views from liberal to ultra-conservative. (S-159)

* * *

□**WHITE MONKEY GOD!** (50¢ from Rob Syers, c/o Skin Graft Comics, PO Box 738, St. Charles, MO 63382-0738): A violent little minicomic, crudely drawn but with a story to warm the heart of any youth. Little Jack goes to school and gets abused by the teachers—but his big angry dad later helps Jack get his revenge. (M-8)

* * *

WHOLE EARTH REVIEW #65 ($6 from 27 Gate 5 Road, Sausalito, CA 94965): A descendant of the original WHOLE EARTH CATALOG, still going strong and investigating all sorts of crazy ideas. In #65 the main theme is "The Global Teenager", as they sent a couple folks around the world to look at demographics and marketing. But they also find time for miracle cures, access to conservatism, and rock and roll int he Baltic States—to name just a few bits of the information kaleidoscope here. (S-144t)

* * *

WIND #19 ($2.50 from Quentin R. Howard, RFD Route-1, Box 809K, Pikeville, KY 41501): A fat litmag that speaks with the voices of the country, the backwoods, the hills. Not that the writing here is self-consciously ethnic, but it has a small-town, relaxed flavor of not being hurried no matter what. The poets and writers who Howard publishes seldom if ever appear in the more experimental journals I see, but their work here is enjoyable if sometimes a bit mundane. (D-118t)

* * *

WINGSPAN Autumn 1989 (Donation from The Advantage Group, 220 Broadway #204, Lynnfield, MA 01940): This is part of the emerging Mens' Movement, an attempt by men to change themselves to be more whole human beings. It's got a fairly spiritual viewpoint. This issue includes pieces on group massage as a healing experience, sweat lodges as a spiritual one, and various mainstream religious practices. (T-16t)

* * *

WITNESS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER Vol. 7 #1 ($25/yr from 250 Lincoln Ave., Syracuse, NY 13204): Witness for Peace is a group which is actively working for a better world in Central America, putting their bodies into the war zones when necessary to bring back the facts. This issue focuses on the upcoming Nicaraguan elections. It was the first place I read the news that both the UN and OAS observer teams said the registration process was fair. Amazing what the major news media misses. (S-16t)

* * *

THE WONDERLAND TIMES Vol. 1 #15-Vol. II #1 ($3/5 issues from PO Box 20794, Baton Rouge, LA 70894): An alternative college paper which flits about a large variety of issues, from the serious to the silly. Drug legalization is a particular concern of theirs, and they've been running a series on the benefits of legal pot. There's also some thoughts in #15 on racism and on whether WWIII is on the way. #1 has a rational explanation of NORML and why marijuana legalization makes sense. (S-8t)

* * *

WOODSWOMEN NEWS Vol. 8 #1 ($15/yr from Adventure Travel for Women, 25 W. Diamond Lake Rd., Minneapolis, MN 55419: Woodswomen is a support and training group for women who wish to travel, hike, canoe, or climb in the great outdoors. Some of their members have gone to Everest or the arctic; others stick closer to home, but all get to enjoy life and learn more about their own potential. The **NEWS** lists future activities and has accounts of past ones, as well as a general store section. (T-12t)

* * *

WORDBURGER #9 ($1 from 1107 Alabama St., San Francisco, CA 94110): Ranting and raving from Boris, who seems to be pretty unsatisfied with the world as it is but without any real strong conception of the way it should be. In bits of paper pasted up over dark collages he rambles on, now and then coming to a conclusion but more often just petering out. Self-expression in its primal form. (HL-28)

* * *

□**WORD WAYS** Vol. 22 #2-4 ($4 from Faith W. Eckler, Spring Valley Road, Morristown, NJ 07960): "The Journal of Recreational Linguistics" brought back fond memories of reading **LANGUAGE ON VACATION** for me. The writers here are fascinated by questions like how many English words end in -gry or what anagrams can be produced from the questions "What is the meaning of life?" I could spend an awful lot of nonproductive time with this one. (S-64)

* * *

WORLD DEMOCRACY NEWS #6 ($10/yr from 260 16th St. #1 SE, Washington, DC 20003-1552): A publication promoting the idea that what we need are more overarching organizations leading eventually to a democratic federalism encompassing the entire world. With lots of fine print, they track various international organizations and groups with similar goals, showing that there;s a lot of activity in this oft-ignored area. (S-8t)

* * *

□**WORLDWOMEN NEWS** Vol. II #1 ($12/4 issues from Minnesota Worldwide Women, 1929 S. 5th St., Minneapolis, MN 55454): A quarterly journal of "global feminism", with this being a special issue on reproductive and maternal and child health. There's an excellent lead article on "The International Politics of Reproductive Health", more on sleazy marketing of infant formula, and a firsthand account of lesbian parenting. They do an excellent job of drawing connections between women everywhere. (S-16t)

* * *

WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER 11/27/89-1/15/90 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): A weekly rundown on everything that's been happening in the world of pro wrestling. Editor Dave Meltzer has lots of contacts and must live on the phone to cram as much into each issue as he does. December 4 looks at the decline in Thanksgiving business over the past few years. The January 8 issue has a fascinating look on the current battle over which companies are going to carry which Pay Per View cable wrestling specials—megabucks are on the line here. (S-10r)

* * *

WRITERS EXCHANGE #13 ($5/yr from PO Box 394, Society Hill, SC 29593): A short writer's market and support zine. They run their own poetry contest and print short poems, plus pass on some market news and review a few indie music releases. (D-8)

* * *

WRITERS' MAGAZINES

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #70-71 ($5/6 months from janet Fox, 519 Ellingwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): A place for the aspiring writer of fantasy, horror, SF and related genres to find out what to do with the stuff once it's written. **SCAV** is an extensive guide to small-press markets in these fields, listing new ones, reviewing old ones, tracking response times and providing a forum for editors and writers to communicate. A very important link in the network. (D-32r)

* * *

☐**W.W. 1 AERO #125** ($4 from World War 1 Aeroplanes, Inc., 15 Crescent Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 126010: Not only are the readers and writers here interested in "The Early Aeroplane", it appears that a fair number of them *fly* the darned things, either renovated or reproduced. They print dozens of photos and drawings, plus articles on everything from German hex-pattern camouflage to notes on making scale models. (S-120)

★★★★★

YAWN #5-7 ($10/yr from PO Box 162, Oakidale, IA 52319): Analyses and other writings in support of the Art Strike, including a poster on the back of #5 and an interview with Karen Eliot on the back of #6. Probably the single place where the most Art Strike activity is so far collected, including (in #7) a response to a critical essay by Bob Black on the subject. (S-2t)

★★★★★

YEAH...SIX BILLION #2 ($1 from 3736 Interlaken Dr., Plano, TX 75075): A collection of collages, cut-ups, and bits of text. If there's an overall theme it's that of man stuck in an artificial world, trying to deal with nebulous concepts of machines and God, and not doing too well. Contributors include John Bennett, Stephen Brody, and Oberc. (D-20r)

★★★★★

YEAH—WHATEVER #3 ($1 (?) from PO Box 4391, Metuchen, NJ 08840): This humorous little zine really cheered me up over the holidays. I read it on December 24th, fed up with the Christmas hype, and found a dozen little stories about how rotten the whole mess was. Coups at the North Pole, diner reviews, nasty O'Henry type stories—everything the complete Scrooge could want. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

YOUTH CONNECTION Vol. 3 #2 ($5 students in North America or $10 others/yr from Terry Inman, 600 DeKalb St. #G10, Auburn, AL 36830): The periodical of the Libertarian Student Network is on its way from being a newsletter to being an APA, as Terry invites other Libertarian student activists to submit pages ready to print. This issue includes organizing notes from several campuses as well as opinion pieces on topics including sexual freedom and drug legalization. (S-12)

★★★★★

☐**YOUTH LIB 'ZINE #2** ($1 from Still Angry?, PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N9, CANADA): A zine of children's liberation from an anarchist perspective, Mostly it's reprints, from advice for runaways to reports on court cases where youth have challenged their oppressors. A lengthy list of anti-racist groups shows that youth are organizing all over. News comes from around the world, with an emphasis on Canada. (HL-28r)

★★★★★

Z MISCELLANEOUS Vol. 3 #4 ($4 from PO Box 20041, Cherokee Stn., New York, NY 10028): A fat litmag. While any given taste will find unexciting stretches, there's always something. laurel Speer's book reviews are consistently interesting. In this issue, I also enjoyed Phyllis Jean Green's story of sailing and poetry from Albert Huffstickler and Philip Wexler. And watch each issue for artifacts and other "surprises". As a special offer, until the end of March you can send $2 and get a mini-sample, including the winners of recent quarterly awards in poetry and fiction, their guidelines and a surprise gift. (S-94)

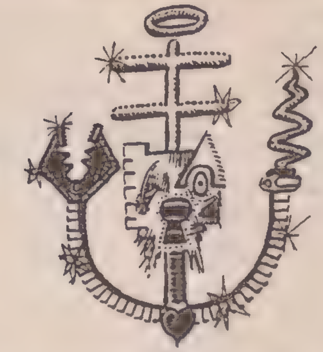
★★★★★

☐**THE ZPG REPORTER** Vol. 21 #6 ($25/yr from 1400 Sixteenth St. NW #320, Washington, DC 20077): The newsletter of Zero Population Growth, sent to all members of that organization. Much of the content is about demographics, of course, but they also have a large amount of environmental news. One thing that's very clear from reading this is that demography is no easy science. (T-8t)

"Willing to tackle all manner of controversy...Wildly disturbing... May offend..."
'M. Gunderloy, Factsheet Five

THE WONDERLAND TIMES

$2.50 for 5 Issues. Send to:
The Wonderland Times
P.O. Box 20794
Baton Rouge, LA 70894



Do you write Strange, Evocative or Questionable Poetry, Prose, Stories or Comics?

Do you do Disarming Drawings, Subversive Collages, Take Challenging Photographs, or Illustrate Shots of Life?

Do you Write Lyrics that cause people to Think, Move, Shrug, Wince or Listen Closely?

Are you Interested in Connecting with other Networkers Here and Overseas, and in Presenting your Ideas and being Exposed to theirs?

YES? MAYBE?

Maybe your work belongs —in the SENSORIA Anthology

WORDS FROM CENSORIUM IMAGES

For Details CONTACT: SFC - PO Box 147
Station J, Toronto
Ont., CANADA.
M4J 4X8

CRY TO KEEP FROM LAUGHING
LAUGH TO KEEP FROM CRYING

MUSIC ZINES

ACTION & DEFIANCE Winter 1990 ($1 from IMWU, PO Box 1162, San Francisco, CA 94101): Newsletter of the International Music Workers Union, a group trying to effect social change using music and organizing as their tools. For some of their contacts, like those in Argentina or the Phillipines, this is a real challenge. In the states, where there is less police repression, they're busy trying to help the homeless via benefits, fight for peoples rights to rock, and picketing pay to play clubs. A&D also contains the latest news on their differences with the WWMU and others who they see as reactionaries. (D-4r)

★★★★★

☐**ACTIONS OF REBIRTH** #1 ($2 from Bill, Apostolopoulouu 56, Halandri 15231, Athens, GREECE): A new zine of hardcore music and political and social issues. Bill tries to set his interviews and articles apart by writing about action rather than just problems; for example, the rundown on animal rights is full of concrete suggestions for cruelty-free living. Some of the bands in this first issue: Spermbirds, Axegrinder, Bolt Thrower and Exit-13. There are also pieces on the Theatre of the Absurd, strange movies (this issue focuses in on movies based on Lovecraft works) and more. There are pages of dense-packed reviews and lots of graphics. (A4-40r)

★★★★★

THE AFFILIATE Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 (#2.50 from Peter Riden, 4322 Cleroux, Chomeday, laval, Montreal, H7T 2E3, CANADA): A music networking zine that sees independent music as a vibrant force in the world. Peter invites a number of folks to do columns for him, and prints them along with other stuff in colorful format. He also lists a great many contacts, including periodicals and distributors. It's not all music; the January issue also includes Ben Price's thoughts on gravity and a test for the heavy drinker. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**ALCHEMY** #3 ($1 (?) from Linc Kinnicutt, 1606 Hampton Ln., Safety Harbor, FL 34695): A small collection of music and creativity. There are interviews here with Holy Cow and the Pale, plus some poetry, a bit of art (including some nice dancing skeletons), and a piece on big mountain. (D-20)

★★★★★

☐**ANTI-POSER** Vol. 1 #7 ($3 *CASH/MO* from Derek Wills, 5608 Woodland Blvd., Niagara Falls, ONT, L2G 5K7, CANADA): A music zine that's basically into metal, hardcore, and other loud forms of hard music. Much of this is short (1-2 pages) interviews, with bands like Prong, Pestilence, Forced Entry, Agnostic Front, and Wargasm. There's also a batch of record reviews and a few other notes. (S-50r)

★★★★★

BACKLASH Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($9/yr from 4128 Fremont Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103): Pacific Northwest music coverage with lots of room for the homegrown stuff but some attention outside the region as well. December leads off with a fantastic history of the coming decade. The January issue has the staff picks and pans for the previous year, as well as articles about Gashuffer and The Hit Men. They remain committed to cassette as well as LP coverage, which is nice. (T-8t)

★★★★★

BAND AGE #3 ($2 (?) from Edward Dean, PO Box 1651, Sacramento, CA 95812): "The Issue That Time Forgot" is a wee bit overdue (about two years) but Edward has not, in fact, stood up his advertisers and subscribers. This is mainly music reviews, with a few well-done (i.e., avoiding stereotypical questions) interviews: Nomeansno, Childsupport, Mad Rover Records, and more. Pretty cool, but I expect that this is the last issue. (S-32t)

★★★★★

☐**BANZAI** #41-42 ($1 (?) from PO Box 6555, Kansas City, KS 66106): A monthly metal zine that's distributed free in the Kansas City area. Local bands are the focus of the news and show reviews, though the record reviews tend towards the big names. Lizzy Borden and King Diamond share the interview page in #41, and the continuing "Metal Head" comic is always fun. (T-8t)

★★★★★

BEN IS DEAD #7-8 ($1.50 from PO Box 3166, Hollywood, CA 90028): Hollywood-centered music coverage that tells me more about the club scene than anyone else. Besides reviews and interviews (Cringer and Green Jello in #7), they have a quite active letters column and some socially-conscious articles. They seem to interact more with their readers than a lot of other zines. #8 has Capitol Punishment, the start of a series on putting on a show, and interviews with the editors of JDs and **HOMOCORE**. (S-40t)

★★★★★

BERKELEY SUCKS #2 (Stamps from Jesse Townley, PO Box 40004, Berkeley, CA 94704): This one is tied into the East Bay punk music scene, but not exactly enamored of it. Gossip from the music world rubs shoulders with anarchist rants and put-downs of various subgenres of punk. A feisty addition to the local music press. (D-24t)

★★★★★

THE BIG TAKEOVER #27 ($3.50 from Jack Rabid, 249 Eldridge #14, New York, NY 10002): Another mammoth lump of new music coverage from the inimitable Jack Rabid, who manages to dig more good releases out of the sludge released these days then I would have thought possible. There's also lots of editorial natter, a report on the Buzzcocks reunion tour, interviews with Mark Burgess and Ed Kuepper, columns...aw, heck, I can't list it all, A great job, in a zine that takes a long time to get through and is one of the under-known centers of new music thought. (S-106)

★★★★★

☐**THE BIRDCAGE LINER** #10 ($5/6 issues from 516 3rd St. NE, Massillon, OH 44646): This one is based in the music scene and more specifically in the Christian part of that scene, but it does branch out a bit. The mini format is utilized well here, filled to the brim with reviews and columns and discussion. Besides the records and zines, they talk about things from abortion to animal rights. Some of the writers cite the Bible as the ultimate authority, but they're not pushy about it. (M-24r)

★★★★★

BITCH #25 ($1.75 from San Jose Face, 478 W. Hamilton #164, Campbell, CA 95008): This zine about women rockers just keeps getting better and better. This issue has Precious Metal, Lady Bo, Two Nice Girls, The Pandoras, and Michelle Shocked, among others. They review albums and talk about the neglected women of rock history. The letters column is also great too. (S-64t)

★★★★★

BLONDIE FANZINE Vol. 2 #5-6 ($1 from Robert S. Robbins, 1997 Misner Rd., Williamsport, PA 17701): A zine for lovers of Debbie Harry and the work she did with Blondie. Most of the pages are taken up by digitized/scanned photos, which lose a lot of detail in the process. There's also thoughts about collecting in #5 and a reprinted interview from **FORUM** on sex in #6. (S-12)

★★★★★

BOSTON ROCK #98 ($15/10 issues from T. Lozaw, PO Box 371, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258): Local and national music coverage with an emphasis on the big indie bands—#98 has Mojo Nixon, 24-7 Spyz, and Fairport Convention, for example. It also has some local Boston coverage and (for some reason) a special feature on New Orleans regional music. (T-24t)

★★★★★

BRAIN HAZE #3 ($1 from Alvin Tucker, 1476 Jordan Ave., Crofton, MD 21114): This one is centered on the local music scene, though not exclusively so. Besides the scene report and record reviews, they interview a band called Moss Point. The principal of the local high school comes in for some nasty remarks, there's a look at endangered species of teens, and other good stuff. Pretty original. (HL-28)

★★★★★

B-SIDE Vol. 3 6 ($3 from PO Box 1860, Burlington, NJ 08016): Large-format snazzy-looking coverage of your fave college rock bands, with lots of pictures. Pop Will Eat Itself, B-52s, Love and Rockets, XTC, Lemonheads, and The Pixies are among those gracing the December issue. There's a spotlight on the ROIR label heading up the "culture exchange" column, intelligent music reviews, and coverage of the 1989 Reading Festival. (O-50t)

★★★★★

BULLSHIT MONTHLY #21-22 (35¢ from 175 5th Ave. #2589, New York, NY 10010): A handwritten hardcore punk zine that notes it's "proud to be gay owned and operated". Mike Bullshit, who puts it out, basically writes the whole thing, filling the pages with a mix of NY scene gossip, record and zine reviews. He also provides addresses of tape traders and a bit of commentary on the scene. #22 starts a new comic story and features an interesting look at punk bootlegs. (S-8)

★★★★★

BUZZ #49-50 ($6/6 issues from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): Albany is not exactly the hippest music town in the world but we do okay. **BUZZ** is our homegrown way to keep track of what's going on at the clubs, with reviews of those who have passed through and schedules for those yet to come. They also review records and chat with performers; #49 features Nine Inch Nails, Psychedelic Furs, and Winter Hours. #50 has Howard Glassman's top 25 albums of the 80s and lots of big names including Camper Van Beethoven, the Front, and Poi Dog Pondering. (S-36t)

★★★★★

☐**CADENCE** Vol. 16 #1-2 ($2.50 from Cadence Bldg., Redwood, NY 13679): "The Review of Jazz & Blues: Creative Improvised Music", this one is quite a solid effort. The scope of their interest is apparent by just looking through the catalog of thousands of records and CDs in their fields they have to sell; looks like convenient one-stop shopping. The main features in #1 are a long interview with Mel Lewis and their 1989 reader's poll results. #2 has more from Mel Lewis and a chat with Doc Cheatham. There's also reviews and an article on upgrading older stereo systems. (D-96t)

★★★★★

CD REVIEW DIGEST: JAZZ, POPULAR, ETC. Vol. 3 #3 ($10/4 issues from The Peri Press, PO Box 348, Voorheesville, NY 12186-0348): This is an archival publication which collects CD reviews from a couple of dozen magazines, excerpts them, and cross-indexes them. It's a fast way to check out the range of reviews a CD you're interested in has received. Their coverage of indie music is still pretty spotty; publications doing CD reviews should get in touch about having them excerpted here. (S-90t)

★★★★★

CHAIRS MISSING #6 ($2 from Scott Munroe, PO Box 375, Fairfield, CT 06430-0375): A cool music zine heavy on the interviews, which are printed in tiny print since they're so exhaustive. This issue features a chat with GG Allin as well as more standard interviews with American Standard, 76% Uncertain, and Das Damen. They also review music, baseball teams, TV shows, and more. (S-42r)

★★★★★

☐**CHECKPOINT** #2 ($1 (?) from PO Box G, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA 01610): This music zine is pretty much all interviews, with an emphasis on college bands. In this issue that includes Fugazi, the Pixies, Throwing Muses, and Screaming Trees. They also have an interesting page of Henry Rollins delivering straightforward opinions on a variety of random topics. (T-32)

★★★★★

CHEMICAL CASTRATION #6 ($1 from Ben Gilbert, 40 Chase St., Newton, MA 02159): The final issue of this noise/electronic-oriented music zine. It starts off with a series of letters between Ben and musician PBK, addressing the racism or a band covered in a previous issue. The other main piece is an interview with Intrinsic Action. A few reviews fill out the package. (HL-16r)

★★★★★

☐**CHEMICAL WARFARE** #4 ($4 from Martin, 40 Thurlow Road, Leicester, LE2 1YE, UK): Jointly edited by Martin and Mick (who also does **POLEMIC**), this is a big chunk of indie music coverage with an eye towards social action and the punk ethos. They feature scattered scene reports (including Northern Ireland and Chile) and a pretty extensive lineup of interviews, with Youth of Today, Fugazi, Stikky and Bigger Than Jesus being a few here. Also, of course, lots of reviews and feature articles on things like hunt sabbing. A good job. (A4-46r)

★★★★★

CHICKEN McFANZINE #3 (50¢ *CASH/Stamps* from Eric Keenan, 3740 Stalker Rd., Macedon, NY 14502): A music zine that keeps the price down the traditional way, by finding a deal on copying. Eric interviews Pressurehead, Bent, and Process of Elimination in #3. He also prints a whole mess of zine reviews—and I like his attitude of supporting the little guy as well as the giant zines. (D-32)

★★★★★

☐**CLAD** #1 ($1 (?) from 1182 Lindberg Dr., Depford, NJ 08096): The title is an acronym for "Crazy Like a Doorknob", and the part of the contents that stands out most is music, including interviews with the Dickies and Dee Dee Ramone. But there's also a defense of Mapplethorpe's art, some comics, notes on modern racism and "Eulogy to a Rat". A bit unfocused but each page is well done. (D-32)

★★★★★

☐**CULT** #3 (IRCs from Livieratos Vageus, Hajopoulou 4-1, 54629 Salonica, GREECE): A Greek-language music zine with a mixture of coverage, both Greek bands and American ones. This issue includes More Fiends and the Ramones, as well as many others whose names I can't easily reproduce. There's also some comics. For some reason the only part in English is the ad for a zine from Peru. (A4-36)

★★★★★

THE CUTTING EDGE #70-71 ($1 from Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando, FL 32810): This is the best zine about Christian Contemporary Music that I know. Not only does Dan write intelligent, informative reviews, he also serves as a linking pin for the whole field, with lots of notes on other zines and radio shows. If I wanted to track down anything in the area, this is where I'd start. A Mike Roe interview is featured in #70. #71 has a Tonio K discography and the first part of an interview with The Warning. (S-16t)

★★★★★

DAGGER #11 ($2 *CASH* from Tim Hinely, PO Box 460, Somers Point, NJ 08244): A raucous music zine which tends to like the noisy stuff. Interviews with Tad, the Texas Instruments, and Antiseen grace this issue, along with a pile of reviews. Nothing fancy, no frills, but a lot of good underground music. (S-36r)

★★★★★

THE DANGEROUS TIMES #15 (50¢ from Josh, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): A minizine of music and social consciousness. Short reviews sit in a chockablock collaged layout along with thoughts on plastics and Coors beer. An encouraging glimpse into youth culture. (M-16)

★★★★★

DEAD LETTER #6 ($1 from 7146 Remmet Ave. #120, Canoga Park, CA 91303): A zine of hardcore music and social action, with anarchy and animal rights up alongisde interviews with Sick of It All and Apocalypse. Things are sort of sloppy here, but exuberant, and while some of the ideas may seem wrong, at least they're thinking. Includes an interesting flyer on how to do zines cheap. (S-24r)

★★★★★

☐**DEAD ZINE** #1 ($1 from Steve, PO Box 267, Otisville, MI 48463): A new music zine that's pretty basic for its premiere issue. There's an interview with Foolish American Quartet, a couple of White Boy poems, and a page of reviews. A page of facts on rainforests is thrown in for the benefit of anyone who's not yet aware that we have a problem. (S-8)

★★★★★

☐**DEAR JESUS** #36 ($1 from Sam McPheeters, PO Box 1145, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10276): Well, Sam used to put out **PLAIN TRUTH** but the Worldwide Church of God sicced its lawyers on him, and he wanted to concentrate on the politics of music more, hence the change of titles. The hot interviews this time are with Ian MacKaye about Dischord Records and No For An Answer. He also talks to Soulside and Hilly from CBGB. It'll be interesting to see how the linkage between new music and corporate violence is developed in future issues. (S-24t)

★★★★★

DIFFERENT DRUMMER #5 ($1.50 from Erin Hooper, 1793 Weston Cir., Camarillo, CA 93010): A music zine with a strongly Christian viewpoint. Most of it is reviews of new releases by Christian artists, with a fair number being on tapes and almost none on major labels. They also find space for some poetry, a few letters, and one or two feature articles, plus a good list of other zines in the same general area. (HL-30r)

★★★★★

DIRTY LINEN #27 ($5 from PO Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239-6600): DL stakes out its musical territory as "Folk, Electric Folk, Traditional and World Music". In this issue, that means The Bobs, Oyster Band, Kate Bush and of course Fairport Convention...among many others. Finnish folk music gets a page, there are plenty of live and record reviews (with a special column for CDs) and tour schedules for the top performers in the field. A professional job. (S-82t)

★★★★★

DISASTER #6 ($2 from PO Box 820, Pasadena, MD 21122): Not your average music zine—the major interviews here are with Lisa Suckdog (who they take fairly seriously) and Nikki Sudden. There's a ton of music reviews including extensive coverage of the Destroy All Music festival, and random notes on the local scene. Not the best organized zine in the world, but one with a lot to offer if you're not easily offended. (S-40r)

★★★★★

DISCORDER Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($15/yr from CITR Radio, Room 233, 6138 SUB Blvd., Vancouver, BC V6T 2A5, CANADA): One of the best college radio zines around, with the added bonus of giving a Canadian view on things. The December issue has chats with the Pixies and Robin Hitchcock, plus Bob Mould. There's also a centerfold on Japanese comics and a story about the rats that destroyed political correctness. Plenty of reviews and of course a playlist fill out the package. The January issue has a great turn-of-the-century supplement look forward to make your worst paranoid dreams come true. (T-36t)

★★★★★

DISCOTEXT Dec. 1989-Jan. 1990 ($1 from 1250 Richards St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 3G2, CANADA): Graceland is a nightclub in Vancouver, and this is their magazine. Besides talking about what's going on at the club, it's a resource for finding out about local scene personalities and artists. They also review dance music that I don't see mentioned in other places. (S-20t)

★★★★★

DISILLUSIONED #3 (75¢ from Kevin Estes, 4041 Nicholl Ave., Muskegon, MI 49444): A short music zine that's anxious for more stuff to publish. They've got a short interview with Boom and the Legion of Doom, a page of record reviews, and lots of art. (S-10)

★★★★★

□***DizOlv*** #1 (2 stamps from Tomas, 8607 Tuscany #101, Playa Del Rey, CA 90293): Sorta strange music coverage that gets off on some tangents not often seen, like the quiz to test your hip-hop IQ in this issue (I failed). There's a pretty good pile of interviews and features here including River Roses, Frontline Assembly, and Death Ride 69, plus live and recorded reviews and some scary art. (D-28r)

★★★★★

EAR OF CORN #10 ($1 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): A midwest-centered music zine that is packed with interviews. Cedar Street Sluts, Afterbirth, Nomeansno and the enigmatic Eeyore Power Stroll are among those in this issue. They also print lots of poetry (with a White Boy insert in this issue) and a few reviews. A solid job. (D-32r)

★★★★★

EAST COAST URINAL #2 ($1 from Mike Farrell, PO Box 711, Salem, VA 24153): The second issue retains the enthusiasm of the first one while upgrading the looks considerably. These guys are into hardcore music with an eye towards promoting people to get off their butts and do something for the scene. Interviews here include Wind of Change and Wrecking Crew; there are plenty of reviews and some spirited editorial matter as well. (D-34t)

★★★★★

ECHOES 4/89 (10FIM *Finnish CASH/IMO* from PO Box 93, SF-33501 Tampere, FINLAND): A Finnish-language music zine devoted to garage bands and those that followed in their footsteps, as well as other nostalgic bits of rock. Featured artists in this issue include Bill Fury (in a centerfold pinup), Slade, and King Pleasure & the Biscuit Boys. Articles, reviews, discographies. (A4-24)

★★★★★

□**ENERGY WASTED** #1 ($1 from Dino Hyssen, 6801 Appoline, Dearborn, MI 48126): A new punk zine that sticks to the canonical features, chiefly interviews and record reviews. There's a great (if slightly dated) chat with Lawrence Livermore here as well as an interview with Dissent. Nothing too special, but a good first effort. (S-18)

★★★★★

□**EPITAPH** #11 ($1.65 from Jeff Cooch, 50 W. Delhi Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48103): A heavy metal zine with this issue featuring an interview with Halloween complete with a lovely centerfold poster photo (lovely, that is, if you like pics of metalheads grabbing their crotches). Other bands in this issue include King Diamond, LA Guns, Devastation, and Crimson Glory. Lots of record reviews too. (S-20)

★★★★★

EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Vol. V #4 ($3.50 from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): More delightful ideas about ways to make harmonious (mostly) sounds. This issue has a fairly technical look at the basics of stringed instruments—but that's balanced by a lighthearted investigation of the musical potential of rubber balloons. There's also plans for windwands, a bamboo and rubber band contraption that looks quite fun. (S-24)

★★★★★

FAT EAR #2 ($1 (?) from KSJS, 1 Washington Sq., San Jose, CA 95192-0094): The program guide, playlist and general interest zine of the radio station at San Jose State University. They've done a good job of addressing multiple concerns here, with some hints for folks new in town (like a handy transit map), a chat with a professor about the university and its problems, and of course reviews and interviews. The latter include Wire and Bollock Brothers. (S-32t)

★★★★★

FIREZONE #3 ($2 (?) from PO Box 135, Clifton, VA 22024): A music fanzine that is centered on U@ (with tour coverage, Amnesty International plugs, and so on) but that still devotes a respectable amount of space to other artists: REM, The Connells, 10,000 Maniacs, and BB King, for example. Their staff is international, with writers and editors scattered among Washington, London, Dublin and the USSR (the Soviet pop news is quite fascinating). Nice clean desktop format and photos make this a looker. (S-50t)

★★★★★

FLIPSIDE #63 ($6/4 issues from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): A ton of music from the punk world and nearby plus interesting letters and a pile of reviews. This issue includes The Nymphs, Shonen Knife, Bootbeast, Hawkwind, Melvins and other hot current groups. They seem to be getting somewhat more eclectic as time goes on, but they're still an essential link in the national alternative music scene. (S-88t)

★★★★★

□**FREEZERBURN** #1 ($1 from Scott, 105 24th St. W, Bradenton, FL 33505): A music zine with a few unusual sections, like the recipe column and the legal advice for skateboarders. There's an interview with SNFU and commentary on the state of the scene, plus an editorial slamming skinhead posers. Pollution problems and Social Distortion rub up against each other here, and maybe provoke some thought. (S-18)

★★★★★

□**THE GOLDEN ROAD** #21 ($4.50 from 484 Lake Park #82, Oakland, CA 94610): A thrice-yearly slick-cover zine about the Grateful Dead, which may well be the band with the biggest hardcore fan following these days. They interview Jerry Garcia and set designer Jan Sawka, print set lists from the most recent tour, and generally capture the spirit of the Dead and the culture surrounding them. (S-54t)

★★★★★

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE #52-53 ($10/6 issues from Charles F. Rosenay, 397 Edgewood Ave., New Haven, CT 06511): Beatles, Beatles and more Beatles—it seems that the group may have more fans than ever. This zine tracks their activities and fan club stuff, as well as the collectors' market. #53 is a special Paul McCartney tour edition, with press conference transcripts, band newsletters, and other goodies. (S-40)

★★★★★

HEARTSONG REVIEW #7 ($6/2 issues from PO Box 1084, Cottage Grove, OR 97424): This is a music review journal which covers a particular area exhaustively: that of "New Age Music of the Spirit". Their reviews are well organized and on the longish side, covering everything from ancient chants to electronic stuff. There's also a few features, with #7 including an interview with subliminal researcher Steve Williamson. (S-56t)

★★★★★

☐**HEAVY PETTING** #3 (50¢ & a stamp from 1231 NE 140th St., Seattle, WA 98109): Rather a mishmash, loosely based in the new music scene. There's a long appreciation of the new Fugazi album and shorter chats with a couple of lesser-known bands. Netta Jones does a story on shooting heroin and Brian Horst chips in a pointless scribble masquerading as a comic. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**HELLO HAPPY TAXPAYERS** #8 (50 fr. from Filleau/Champaloux, BP 261, 33012 Bordeaux Cedex, FRANCE): I don't know why the title to this fat music zine is in English, since the rest is in French. There's a lot of US music content, with Steve Albini and Henry Rollins here, as well as a ton of reviews and lots of graphics. They seem to have a slant towards the stranger parts of the underground and the noisier varieties of music. Includes a free hard vinyl EP with Naked Raygun, AC Temple, and other goodies. (A4-82t)

★★★★★

☐**HIJINX** #10 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1071, Bloomington, IN 47402): This music mag is free around Bloomington, but you'll probably have to part with some cash to convince them to mail you a copy. They do feature stories on reasonably local bands, intermixed with photos and notes from the scene. This issue features Royal Crescent Mob, Vixen, and Jot. (S-32t)

★★★★★

HIPPIE MONKS IN HERMITAGE #2 (75¢ from 2005 Palo Verde Ave. #230, Long Beach, CA 90815): Collage, poetry, short essays and music reviews that generally have some religious content but avoid being preachy. The Christian worldview seems to at least inform the writers here, but they write to communicate, not to evangelize, telling simple stories of life or talking about music they like. (S-12)

★★★★★

HOT STOPS #14 ($2 from Michael Dodson, PO Box 1333, Lombard, IL 60148): This all-purpose fanzine is back in a new larger format, but still with bits of appreciation for a couple of dozen bands in all sorts of rocking formats. They feature reader classifieds, a page of awful jokes, and lots of SHOUTING that conveys a certain urgency. (O-12)

★★★★★

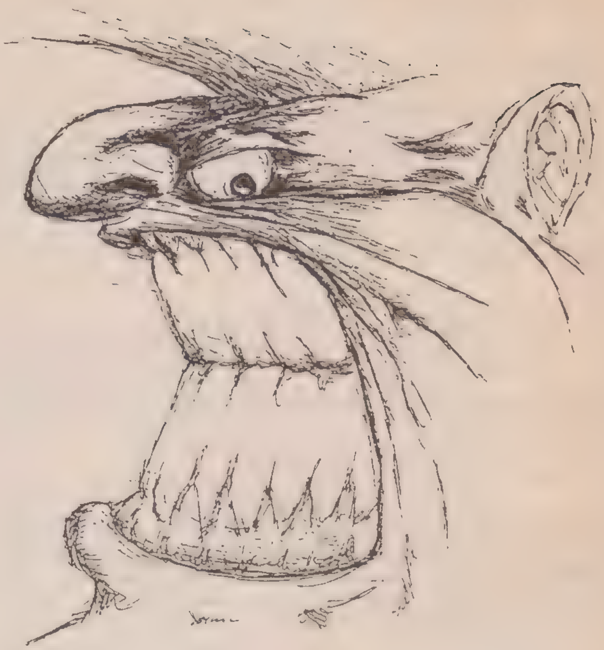
☐**ICE** ($2.50 from PO Box 3043, Santa Monica, CA 90403): The title is an acronym for "International CD Exchange", and this newsletter is devoted to music on CDs. They get into technical matters a bit, with a discussion in this issue about "SoundRings" and whether they can help CDs sound better. But the bulk of this is news about who's released what lately, what's worth collecting, and so on. (S-8r)

★★★★★

IGNORANCE IS NO EXCUSE #3 ($1.50 from Dan Werle, 3610 Deep Haven Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920): This music zine is ceasing publication after one more issue, but #3 should still be available as you read this. It sticks pretty closely to the canonical contents: interviews, reviews, and live show reports. Groups here include Agnostic Front, Beowolf and Libido Boyz. Dan also talks with someone from the local SANE/Freeze chapter. (S-44)

★★★★★

INCITE! #16 (2 stamps from Tim Alborn, PO Box 649, Cambridge, MA 02238): Mostly music coverage, although Tim also prints poetry from Richard Hay, printed matter reviews, and notes on his daily commute. The Mo-Dettes and Mark Edwards get a page each in this issue. Tim has a quiet editorial voice and a very friendly manner; one imagines sitting in his living room and just shooting the breeze. (D-16t)



★★★★★

INDEPENDENT GLOBALLY #5 ($1 from Eric Vonk, Lange Haeg 114, 38853 EJ Ermelo, HOLLAND): A short zine of music from the scene, mostly hardcore but getting out into other directions including a bit of ska. Interviews with Excel and Lesson of Violence, plus a short pile of show and record reviews make up the contents. (A4-14)

★★★★★

IN YER EAR #4 ($5 from 471 Rossland Rd. E, Oshawa, ONT, L1G 2X3, CANADA): A fat music zine that has some emphasis on Canadian bands and some on garage/psychedelia but still gets around the aural map. In this issue, they talk to the Dead Milkmen, Jane's Addiction, Del-Lords, Barrence Whitfield, the Chills, Thee Fourgiven, and more. In between they get in some opinion pieces and music reviews, and a hard-vinyl Cynics 45 is tucked inside. (S-60t)

★★★★★

☐**ITZA PUNK ZINE** #3 ($1 from Mark Murray, 1675 Vernon St. #39, Roseville, CA 95678): One thing that sets this one apart from other little photocopied zines is the number of news stories Mark reprints—on skinheads, on terrorism, on pollution, and similar hot topics. There's interviews with Necromancy, Exoteracy, 2 Car Family and a bunch of other bands, plus a handful of opinion columns and some reviews. (D-40r)

★★★★★

JACKHAMMER POGOSTICK #3 ($2 from Mike Krusewicz, 2136 W. 22 St., Erie, PA 16502): A music zine which has its hooks into both hardcore and rap, giving it a wider spectrum of reviews than a lot of things. They also look at other media, with reviews of *Married With Children* and **Do The Right Thing** in this issue. They talk with White Zombie, Nomeansno and Krack and throw a lot of record and zine reviews in. (S-42)

★★★★★

☐**JAZZ TIMES** Dec. 1989 ($1.90 from 8055 13th St. #312, Silver Spring, MD 20910): There's a magazine for every flavor of music, of course, and this fat tabloid is devoted to jazz. They feature current news, retrospectives, trivia quizzes and longer feature articles. Frank Morgan and Milt Hinton are two of the performers spotlighted in this issue. (T-56t)

★★★★★

J.D.s #6 ($3 [no checks] from Bruce LaBruce, PO Box 1110, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, ONT, M5C 2K5, CANADA): The premiere homocore zine, combining the exuberance of being young and gay with the exuberance of being young and punk. They feature lots of reasonably softcore gay porn and pictures, plus music reviews and notes on who is and isn't in the music world. This is a special theme issue, with lots of skateboarders getting it on. (HL-52r)

★★★★★

JOURNAL OF COUNTRY MUSIC Vol. 13 #1 ($15/4 issues from Country Music Foundation, 4 Music Sq. East, Nashville, TN 37203): Another specialized music journal, this one aimed (obviously) at fans of followers of country artists. They seem to be oriented largely towards preserving past greats, though there are current folks here as well. #1 includes another installment of the Flatt & Scruggs discography and a bit on songs that the composers sold too cheaply. (S-58t)

★★★★★

KONEXION ROCK #2 ($2 from Luis Espinoza A., Los Varayocs No. 253, Zarate - 3ra. Zona, Lina 36, PERU): A real fine-looking music zine that's put together an impressive second issue with an international cast. Among the bands they interview are Heimat Los, Yeastie Girls, This Mortal Coil and Suicidal Tendencies; overall, they incline in a pretty hard direction. I'm impressed with the look. Now if only I could read the words... (D-40t)

★★★★★

LOWLIFE #16 ($4 from Glen Thrasher, PO Box 8213, Atlanta, GA 30306-0213): It's tough to cram a zine the size of **LOWLIFE** into any one category, but it belongs here better than elsewhere. Although the printer apparently ran over the pages with a truck, this is still a fine issue. Contrary to the herd, Glen and his folks lead off with a ton of reviews (of printed as well as audio matter) and only then get into features and articles. A chat with Sue-Ann Harkey and an account of the Fourth Destroy All Music Festival stand out. Also impressive is the free hard-vinyl EP, with one side full of experiments and noise from the likes of Floating Concrete Octopus, the other with gentle retro-rock from The Dave and more. A great package, stretching the boundaries of underground culture in a lot of directions. (S-96t)

★★★★★

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL #79 ($2.50 from PO Box 288, Berkeley, CA 94701): A huge slab of punk music and culture, with lots of letters, columns, and scene reports to promote communication. #79 includes a longish article about the dangers of getting involved with the Hare Krishnas as well as an interview with Ray from Youth of Today. (S-128t)

★★★★★

METAL MELTDOWN #7 ($1.50 from PO Box 824, Severna Park, MD 21146): All the coverage of loud fast heavy thrash metal that you'll ever need. Interviewed in this issue are Obituary, Desecration, Indestroy and a couple of other bands. They also review a ton of records (with the print in this section slowly shrinking to match mine) and pass on a batch of news and a readers' choice playlist. (S-44)

★★★★★

☐**MLC** Vol. 3 #4 ($4.50 from PO Box 1213, Stn. B, Downsview, ONT, M3H 5V6, CANADA): A fanzine devoted to Madonna and Madonna collectibles. This issue has some notes on recently-surfaced rare and collectors items and what they're going for, excerpts from a promotional interview, and a bit on her latest movie *Bloodhounds of Broadway*. The printing is a bit hard to read in spots, but otherwise this is an enthusiastic and good job. (S-18)

★★★★★

MMMWAHAHAHAHA! ($1 (?) from 4410 Massachusetts Ave. NW #191, Washington, DC 20016): Music and social action from the nation's capital. Besides the interviews (Butthole Surfers, the Ex, NoMeansNo, Fidelity Jones), they have an opening barrage on recycling and later a big section on alcohol and its effects. Slapdash but packed. (S-16r)

★★★★★

MOSHABLE #5 ($2 from Lars Krogh, Korevej 18H, 9210 Alborg 50, DENMARK): Hardcore music coverage that concentrates on Danish and other European bands but with its eyes open to the worldwide scene. In particular this issue has a lengthy South African scene report which was quite interesting—a force for social change down there we don't often hear about. For interviews they have Letahl Overdose, President Fetch, The Wasted Bunnys, Hard-Ons and lots more. (A4-32r)

★★★★★

☐**MUSIC FOR THE LOVE OF IT** Vol. 2 #6 ($2.50 from 67 Parkside Dr., Berkeley, CA 94705): This newsletter appears to be directed at the serious amateur musician playing in the classical field, whether this be string quartet or orchestra. It discusses avoiding stage fright, dealing with summer workshops (sort of summer camps for musicians) and proper phrasing. A friendly spirit animates it all. (S-8t)

★★★★★

NEW POSITIVE SANCTIONS #4 ($1 from 103 Downey St., San Francisco, CA 94117): A zine of mostly hardcore music, mostly covered by interviews. There's a long talk with Chemical People (denying the charges of sexism though not, in my opinion, very convincingly) as well as other chats with the likes of Bhang Revival, Wrecking Crew, and Agnostic Front. They also find space for reviews and a few serious articles, such as co-editor Jessica's piece on rape in this issue. (S-18r)

★★★★★

☐**THE NEWSLETTER** Vol. 3 #2 (45¢ postage from PO Box 93237, Milwaukee, WI 53203): Milwaukee has a fairly active local music scene, if this chronicle of its activities is anything to judge by. The most fascinating article here was on the annual Trashfest, apparently a tradition not unlike NY Scum Rock. Bands featured in more reputable stories include Black Eyed Susan, Wild Kingdom, and Big Bang Theory. (S-20t)

★★★★★

NO IDEA #7 ($2.50 from Var Thelin, PO Box 14636, Gainesville, FL 32604-4636): Collectorstuff first: this issue has a hard vinyl record, 3 songs from Crimpshrine, 2 from Mutley Chix, lots of energy. On the chat front, they do those two bands plus Fugazi, Alice Donut, Lemonheads and Das Damen. The interviews tend to be wide-ranging and wide-open, without just the usual questions. Good review section in the back too. A force to be reckoned with, especially if they start coming out more often. (S-64t)

★★★★★

THE NOISE #90 ($10/12 issues from Timothy Maxwell, 74 Jamaica St., JP, Boston, MA 02130): All the music news and gossip you need to know from the Boston scene. Oh yeah, there's some band articles thrown in here too—with folks like Mr. Butch and Cluster in #90. They also review music, gigs, videos, whatever. A constant scene support. (S-24)

★★★★★

NOISY CONCEPT #1 ($1 from Mike Thain, 621 Bassett Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140): Formerly **RESTORE** zine, this is still a showcase for hardcore music and a few other things, like my own sporadic "Buried in Fanzines" column and Boris Wordburger's coverage of the anarchist festival. This issue features Token Entry, Images, Screeching Weasel and Murphy's Law, plus reviews and other goodies. (D-40r)

★★★★★

THE NOTE Vol. 4 #5-6 ($1 from 735 1/2 New Hampshire, Lawrence, KS 66044): Regional music coverage that has gradually branched out to include most all of Kansas. #5 includes a look at the area's rap and hip-hop scenes, as well as a review of their previous **FACTSHEET FIVE** review. #6 has an interview with Bob Mould (x-Husker Du) and a section on Russian rock from about 1980 to the present. (T-24t)

★★★★★

NOTE 4 NOTE #6 ($1 (?) from S. Roeser, 2646 1/2 Griffith Park Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90039): A music zine which covers a lot of major label material as well as stuff from the larger indies. Bo Diddley, Mary My Hope and a tribute to Elvis are covered here, along with a whole pile of record reviews. (S-8)

★★★★★

THE OBLIGATOR Vol. II #6 ($1 from PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A zine of Christian music, with some slant towards heavy metal but a willingness to try on new things for size. Besides the reviews and interviews (Axemaster in this issue) they do some articles that are straightforward evangelism. The SF earthquake provokes editor Mark Hodges to wonder in this issue whether it's a sign of the impending second coming. (S-12r)

* * *

ON SITE #8 ($2/2 issues from Bob Bannister, 230 W. 105th St. #5C, New York, NY 10025): Bob has an interesting way of writing music reviews; he spends a lot of space on things that warrant it and far less on releases he thinks should be blown off. Now this may seem obvious, but most of us in the review biz go for the same length, more or less, about every record. Other than lots of reviews, ranging from unknown indie tapes to major minor college radio CDs, there's an interview with Fish and Roses. (D-28r)

* * *

OPEN HAND #2 ($1 from Ron, PO Box 20224, Seattle, WA 98102): A short zine from the Seattle hardcore scene. This issue has interviews with Last Gasp and Refuse, and some notes on how to set up an all-ages show in the city, complete with prices and phone numbers for various venues. They also do nice zine and record reviews, the former with cover reproductions. (S-16)

* * *

OPTION #30 ($4 from Sonic Options Network, 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): With Laurie Anderson on the cover and featured inside, this issue will further fuel complaints from those who dismiss **OPTION** as a big, slick, music industry sell-out. But they also bring groups like the Flaming Lips, Chris and Cosey, and N.W.A. to a much larger audience than they might otherwise reach. The continuing examination of the CD explosion and the home studio tech column are two other reasons to get a copy. Besides, sometimes it's a nice change to read something big and slick. (S-130t)

* * *

OUTER SHELL #50-51 (SASE from PO Box 7053, St. Petersburg, FL 33734): After fifty issues this zine is still going strong, with #50 being a double-sized issue. It starts off with a longish interview with Michael Franano from The Front. Later there's comics, the Foundation for the Love of Rock & Roll, and assorted silliness. #51 features a Jeff Beck interview. (S-4r)

* * *

PHILLY ZINE #9 ($1.50 from Sean Gustilo, 101 Princeton Rd., Glassboro, NJ 08028): This one is centered on the Philadelphia area hardcore scene, though it gets as far afield as Gilman Street and New York City, Highlights in this one include an interview with Mike Bullshit and one with 24-7 Spyz. Also has pieces on Sticks and Stones, Brotherhood, and Sick of It All. (S-36)

* * *

POSITIVELY ENTERTAINMENT & DINING Vol. 13 #11-12 ($15/yr from Crooked Arrow Publishing Company, PO Box 16009, Portland, OR 97216): Where to go and what to listen to in the Portland area. They concentrate on both performers and venues, with short stories about many local performers and lots intriguing ads in every issue. An area calendar wraps the thing up. (T-16t)

* * *

□**POWER PACKER** #3 ($1 from Cameron Gillespie, 11216 Oakwood Dr., Dunkirk, MD 20754): A music zine dedicated to one specific genre: power metal, which Cameron goes to some lengths to adequately define. This issue is bigger and better than #2, featuring Wrathchild America, Solitude Aeturnus, Dead On, Kraze, Leather Leone, and more, as well as a batch of record reviews. (S-36)

* * *

□**PROFANE EXISTENCE** #1 ($1.50 from PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A punkzine devoted to helping out the scene by emphasizing solidarity, independent thought, and anarchy. They devote more space to opinion columns and anarchist history than they do to music, in fact, though they also print a batch of scene reports and an interview with Destroy. Lots of positive energy here, spilling out into other projects like a distribution service. (S-32t)

* * *

PUKE & SNOT #2 ($1.25 from Scott Broadhurst, 4201 Cumnor Rd., Downers Grove, IL 60515): Music coverage that sticks to metal & hardcore sounds. No Empathy, Forbidden and The Plague are among the bands here. Scott rates his reviews as either records or "wreckords", a simple but attractive system. Very punk looking. (D-24)

* * *

RABID Vol. 1 #5 ($1 (?) from Alex, 104 James St., Morristown, NJ 07960): **RABID** has grown quite a bit since the last issue, adding a pile of show reviews to all the record reviews. There's also chats with Slint and David Yow (well, at least they're not the same folks I've seen interviewed in every other zine) plus a couple of rants from Alex. The reviews tend to be pretty blunt, and some people get praised at length while others get mercilessly panned. Lots of Homestead, Alternative Tentacles, Amphetamine Reptile and similar labels. (S-18r)

* * *

RAMBLIN' WILLIE'S BROADSIDE Vol. 1 #4 (50¢ from PO Box 642, Winterville, GA 30683): Ramblin' Willie rambles and plays music (I gather folk and blues and rock, but I'm not positive) and when not rambling, cranks out this occasional newsletter. This time around he takes time to remember the significant events of the 80's, and then reviews a local Billy Bragg show and some records and stuff. (L-6t)

* * *

RATBEAT #6/7 ($4 from Room Service, PO Box 361, 00121 Helsinki, FINLAND): Late again but bigger than ever, this is about the only zine I know trying to cover indie music worldwide and aggressively distribute worldwide. They've got a tone of music reviews, a special section on Seattle music, interviews with Wire and Hoodoo Gurus, and more. (T-40t)

* * *

THE RAVEN #7 ($1.50 from PO Box 295, Schertz, TX 78154): This one is a wild mix of music and literature from over the borders. Vegetarian cannibals are only a few pages after a longish interview with Lisa Suckdog. There's plenty of short reviews, plus poetry and a modest proposal for taking care of a lot of social problems with one bold stroke. (S-26)

* * *

□**REAL LIFE IN A BIG CITY** #22-23 ($10/12 issues from Debi Dip, 6520 Selma #332, Los Angeles, CA 90028): A music zine that seems to have its own format down well. They lead off with a major interview—Yard Trauma in #22, The Jakk in #23—before going into shorter pieces. Towards the middle the music is broken up with the "Strange But Weird" column of humorous invented news. John Trubee pokes up with art and poetry towards the end of the zine, along with Stubo, the cat with no paws. Nice to see something this sure of itself. (S-22)

* * *

□**RIGHTEOUS ROCK** #3 ($4/3 issues from Jeff Shipman, 5101 Gorham Dr., Charlotte, NC 28226): A small zine of Christian music; more precisely, of Christian heavy metal. #3 includes an interview with Sacred Warrior and another with Majesty, plus a pile of album reviews and some reader feedback. (S-16)

* * *

□**RIVER CITY ROCKS** Vol. 2 #22-24 ($2 (?) from PO Box 1208, Jeffersonville, IN 47131-1208): A rock and metal zine tabloid that puts a full-size centerfold poster in every issue (in #24, for example, it's Faster Pussycat). Their coverage ranges from mega-groups like Kiss down to local faves, with an emphasis on folks just breaking into the charts. (T-28t)

* * *

ROCK & ROLL CONFIDENTIAL #73-74 ($24/yr from PO Box 15052, Long Beach, CA 90815): Dave Marsh is the editor of this newsletter of inside rock information. He tends to take on causes rather than simply review music; in #73 it's the question of beer company sponsorship and use of music in commercials. But he's also most active on opposing the PMRC and other censor wannabes, and there is plenty of news about new mainstream music. (S-8t)

* * *

ROGUE'S GALLERY #11 ($1 from PO Box 480892, Los Angeles, CA 90048): A music zine dedicated to Celtic, folky sounds (though they branch out to peek at things like world beat occasionally). This issue is pretty much all reviews, with Robin Williamson, Gone to Earth, and Liz Carroll among those featured. (D-16t)

* * *

ROX Vol. 2 #6-7 ($15/yr from PO Box 471, Reistertown, MD 21136-0471): A music tabloid that covers groups either coming from or playing in the Baltimore and DC areas. Featured in #6 are Voi Vod, Convicted, Lillian Axe, and more. They also profile local label

SEVEN: Scat Records Quarterly

Seven is a bagazine. That means it comes in a bag, you doofus. Rather than have all the writing and whatnot in a coherent format, we prefer to confuse you by separating the different pieces into their own respective pamphlets and booklets. After we've made all these things nice and pretty, we throw it all in a bag. Get it? *Seven* focuses on the 7" single, which is alive and well in 1990, no matter what the major labels want you to think. Regular features include: a 7" single with every issue, the Misogynist (an advice column for sadists), fiction, 7" reviews, toys, and much shameless self-promotion. And it always comes out on time because we're the most anal folks you'd ever care to meet.

NUMBER ONE (Winter '89/'90, Scat Four): Debut issue includes a Ghost Sonata 7" and interview, actual money to spend in Hell, warped tales by Christopher Marec, plastic ants, surreal photography, and graphics to die for. Limited edition of 800, few remain.

NUMBER TWO (Spring '90, Scat Five): Hot off the presses, bubba. Features: Starvation Army 7" and interview, fiction by Fraser Sims, toys, a "Scat Lady" balloon, commentary on the 7" biz, and plenty of other wicked crapola that you'd be a fool not to kill your next door neighbor for. Limited edition of 1000.

Single issues: $5ppd. Subscriptions (1 year/4 issues): $15.

Write for free Scatalog, which includes releases by other Cleveland labels in addition to our own releases.

SCAT RECORDS
PO BOX 141161 • CLEVELAND OH 44114

Calvert Street Records and list tour dates for the future. #7 has Wrathchild America, Deanna Bogart, and Bad Brains. (T-32t)

★★★★★

S&S FANZINE #2 ($1 from University of Florida, 18-0235 Rawlings, Gainesville, FL 32612-1801): The full name of this zine is **SHIT & SHINOLA**, but they're not using that on the outside of the envelope and you probably shouldn't either. They review a bunch of live shows and records, editorialize on matters of student interest (drinking habits, over-18 shows) and run a few interviews. Most notable are those with Alien Sex Fiend and Love and Rockets. (S-20)

★★★★★

☐**SCATTER BALANCE #1** (50¢ from PO Box 57549, Los Angeles, CA 90057): A poster-sized fanzine on cardstock, lending it a certain air of semi-permanence, like a theater lobby card. The major piece here is a look at the new music scene in Tokyo, in the form of an eyewitness report, with a few photographs. There's also a poem called "Levi chili" which I do not understand. The back has some music reviews and scene commentary. (O-2r)

★★★★★

☐**SEVEN #1** ($4.50 from Scat Records, PO Box 141161, Cleveland, OH 44114): A new quarterly for people who appreciate and want to promote the seven-inch record. It comes in a bag, with some mini-stories, a photo print, a poker chip, plastic ants, and of course a seven-inch record. In this premiere issue it's from Ghost Sonata, a sort of Zeppelinish outfit. There's also an interview with them, and another pamphlet of record reviews, and the Scat Records catalog. A labor of love that turned out well. (Various)

★★★★★

SICK TEEN #16 (49¢ from PO Box 918, Green Bay, WI 54305): Grab the magnifying glass, Martha, the new **SICK TEEN** is out. Role model of countless crazed collage layouts, it's still churning out opinionated words about punk rock and orbiting genres of music. This time around the Rev. Nørb lists a bunch of hated bands worth listening to (like the Knack) and a bunch of overrated bands (like Big Black). He's sure to lose friends over this. There's also a hilarious Metallica interview and of course lots of reviews. (D-16r)

★★★★★

☐**SKUDGE FANZINE #2** ($1 & 2 stamps from Mike Lupica, 15-B Andover Cir., Princeton, NJ 08540): Your basic fanzine with live reviews, band photos (done pretty well thanks to Jim Testa), record reviews and interviews. The latter include Murphy's Law, Rednecks In Pain, and Chemical People. Mike is excited by the scene and that's infectious. (S-20t)

★★★★★

SKULL SESSION #11 ($1 from Brad Mitchell, 3187 Keynes Ct., Mississauga, ONT, L5N 2Z7, CANADA): Most of this zine is music interviews, with folks like DOA and The Libido Boys. The questions tend to be rude and crude, but they're overshadowed by the horribly misogynistic sexist comic strip in the middle. On the other hand, the altered "Poser & Hobbes" comics later on are amusing despite themselves. (S-30)

★★★★★

SLAUGHTERHOUSE #3 (Free from 21370 Pine Ridge Ave., Apple Valley, CA 92307): A Christian music zine with a decidedly punk look, lots of skeletons behind the Biblical verses. This issue ranges from an interview with Torn Flesh to a long article on the use of fetal byproducts in cosmetics. Plenty of contacts, some evangelism, and a hefty dose of music reviews. (S-18)

★★★★★

SLUG & LETTUCE #12 (1 stamp from Chris, 30 Newport Pkwy. #409, Jersey City, NJ 07310): A single-sheeter of punk rock and associated topics, laid out over band photos that photocopy pretty well. This issue is all short reviews of records and zines, some of them sort of old since he's cleaning out his files. He promises more regular issues in the future. (S-2r)

★★★★★

☐**SMASHIN THROUGH #3** ($1.50 from PO Box 1014, Yonkers, NY 10704): On the plus side, this zine seems to be really into making New York punk a better scene, and they're trying to break down some barriers between various tendencies. Interviews with Born Against, Hogan's Heros and Supertouch come off well. But on the design side...well, look guys, you *don't* print an interview in 8-point outline font dot-matrix type if you want anyone to read it! (S-18)

★★★★★

SONGTALK Vol. 2 #12 ($35/yr from NAS, 6381 Hollywood Blvd. #780, Hollywood, CA 90028): This tabloid comes with membership in the National Academy of Songwriters; that's the non-songwriting industry rate. Most of it is interviews with pretty big names: Rickie Lee Jones, B-52s (who prove that you don't have to have a clue to write a song), Harry Nilsson and Joan Baez are among the performers in this issue. There's also a tribute to ASCAP and the NAS pick of the top 25 albums of the 80s. (T-48t)

★★★★★

SORTE ROSE #11 (Available for "A nice letter" from Jakob, Helgolandsgade 7A, 2, 9000 Aalborg, DENMARK): Though generally a music zine, this issue is almost all artwork, thanks (apparently) to a budget crunch. Jakob gets in a few pages of nice band photos, plus a "Vote for Nobody" page, some arty type comics, and (at least in my copy) a lovely full-size "Boycott McDonalds" poster. (A4-14)

★★★★★

SOUND CHOICE #13 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 1251, Ojai, CA 93023): Independent music coverage with wide-ranging interests. Their introductory "News and Notes" section really stands out, with all sorts of interesting facts and gossip from the indie music world. They also sort their music reviews by genre, which is useful. Special features in this issue include an interview with Kramer and a reprinted Robert Anton Wilson article on brain machines. (S-94t)

★★★★★

SPEW & REVIEW #37 (31¢ from Bob Konshak, 422 4th St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414): Well, this single-sheeter is as much about music as it is about anything else. There's satanic collage, fun poked at celebrities, the top ten singles of last year, and an open letter to Elvis here. The printing on this issue is atrocious, though. (S-2)

★★★★★

SPUN #45-46 (75¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): Doug mostly does comics, and this one still has plenty of drawings in the margins, but it's nominally his music zine. Every issue includes some music and zine reviews, as well as a few pages of what-not and ads for other DCC projects. #45 has a Jim Thirlwell review, while #46 covers the North Brooklyn Small Press Convention. (D-8)

★★★★★

STEPPINGSTONE Vol. 1 #23-24 ($15/12 issues from Baby Faze Productions, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): A music zine made up by reprinting press releases from various bands, as well as a bit of news. While the bands may like this (after all, if their own press release doesn't show them in the best possible light, who will?), it doesn't exactly make for exciting reading. (D-20r)

★★★★★

☐**STEP UP** #1 ($1.50 from Ryan, PO Box 284, Beach Grove, IN 46107): A new entry in the hardcore fanzine arena, that packs a reasonable punch in its first issue. Interviews with Sockeye, Brotherhood, Release and more are the main feature. There are also reviews plus opinion columns defending straightedge and vegetarianism. (S-36)

★★★★★

STRESSED OUT #10 ($1.50 from Pauline Poisonous, 151 Arlington Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32014): A limited edition, thanks to the super-cool cut-put moire pattern cover with acetate overlay...a real work of art. Putting it together took away from reviewing time, so there's not all that much music in this issue, but there is some. However there's plenty of poetry and graphics, so think of this as a punk zine that concentrates on other parts of the lifestyle and you won't be far wrong. (HL-20r)

★★★★★

SWELLSVILLE #9 ($2.50 from PO Box 85334, Seattle, WA 98145): A big lump of music and its associated culture from Jack Thompson, who opens with an essay linking together Public Enemy, *Lipstick Traces*, Tall Dwarfs and other disparate cultural icons. Later on Richie Unterberger slams punk as being dead (what, again?) and provides Beatles trivia, Red Alert answers some questions, and the Walkabouts get a few pages. Reviews dart through this, piling up at the end, and little bits of thought actually appear from time to time. Worth reading, especially for those who think they already have their fingers on the pulse of the scene. (S-98t)

★★★★★

☐**TEXAS BEAT** Vol. 1 #1-2 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): A publication formed from the merger of **GLITCH NEWS** and **OASIS**. Music coverage from all over the great state of Texas, in the form of pages for each separate scene. They also get into stuff like fashion, and their large format allows them space to treat this well. In #2, the Fat Man has a great column on crackpot ideas one hears about recording studio equipment. (T-32t)

★★★★★

THIS ZINE SUCKS #18 ($1 from Bob Conrad, PO Box 7952, West Trenton, NJ 08628): A punk/whatever music zine that keeps adding more—there's enough record and tape reviews here to make a real impact. Fanzines and live shows get reviewed too, of course. There's also interviews with No-FX, Southtown Screamers, Flinch and a couple of other bands. Bob continues to do a workmanlike job of the zine; not flashy but definitely competent. (S-26r)

★★★★★

THORAZINE #4 ($2 from Glenn Ancheta, 8624 Hemlock Hill Dr., Houston, TX 77083): A punk music zine that pays attention to looks as well as music, and does very well with dark and depressing collage layouts. Bands in this issue include Verbal Assault, Confrontation, and Impetigo. Glenn also provides free stickers with every issue, and is especially interested in hearing from folks who trade punk and hardcore audio or video tapes. (S-20r)

★★★★★

☐**TOO MUCH NOISE** #26 (70FIM *International MO*4 copies from Kyösti Mäkinen, Tammelanpuistokatu 1 A 3, 33500 Tampere, FINLAND): A rockabilly and 50's rock magazine in Finnish (though there are plenty of photos and discographies for us insular Americans to groove on). A few of the performers in #26: Ray Smith, Even Johns, Ral Donner and the whole Sun Records label. (S-42)

★★★★★

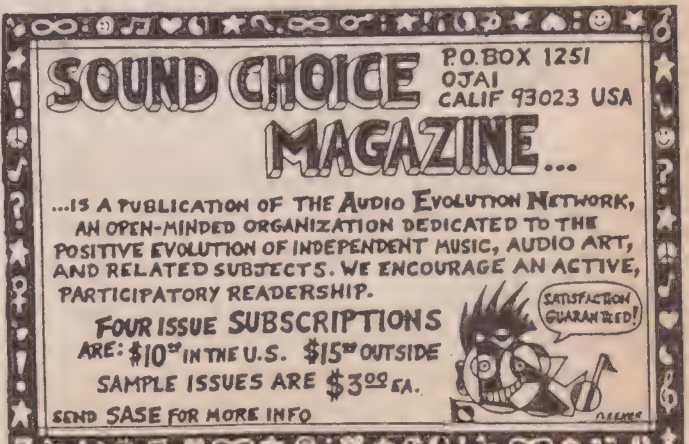
☐**TRACKING** Vol. 2 #1 ($15/yr from IASPM/USA c/o Steve Jones, Dept. of Journalism, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI 54702): The scholarly journal of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music. The main article in this issue, from Stan W. Denski, seeks to elucidate the important questions in the field. On a more popular level, B. Lee Cooper looks at black music that was covered by white groups during the early modern popular music era. (D-54t)

★★★★★

TRADING POST #5-6 (25¢ from Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): A zine for record and tape traders. Basically it consists of lists of music, showing who wants what and what they have to trade. Hundreds of records and tapes in every issue. (D-24r)

★★★★★

TRUANT #3 ($1.85 from PO Box 42185, Memphis, TN 38104): A nice hunk of punk music zine, long on interviews, with enough polish to be real readable but not so much as to look slick. Interviews include Trusty and Hunger Artist. There's also a hardcore trivia


SOUND CHOICE
P.O. BOX 1251
OJAI
CALIF 93023 USA
MAGAZINE...
...IS A PUBLICATION OF THE AUDIO EVOLUTION NETWORK, AN OPEN-MINDED ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE POSITIVE EVOLUTION OF INDEPENDENT MUSIC, AUDIO ART, AND RELATED SUBJECTS. WE ENCOURAGE AN ACTIVE, PARTICIPATORY READERSHIP.
FOUR ISSUE SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE: $\$10^{00}$ IN THE U.S. $\$15^{00}$ OUTSIDE
SAMPLE ISSUES ARE $\$3^{00}$ EA.
SEND SASE FOR MORE INFO
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

quiz, plenty of record and tape and zine reviews, and even some fairly wild fiction. (S-32t)

★★★★★

TRUST #20-21 ($6 air/$4 surface [NO CHECKS] from Dolf Hermannstädter jun., Salzmanstrasse 53, 8900 Augsberg, WEST GERMANY): With the first of these issues this German-language hardcore zine has added a slick full-color cover and a limited-edition single from Spermbirds. Perhaps the closest equivalent in this country is FLIPSIDE. Bands in #20 include Operation Ivy, Hard-Ons, Gorilla Biscuits and Dickies as well as European groups. #21 includes Amphetamine Reptile, Fugazi, Underdog and Mudhoney. (A4-80r)

★★★★★

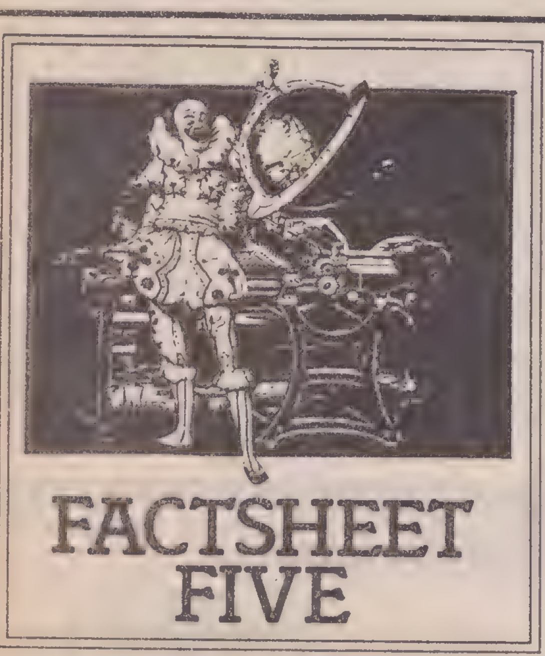
TRUTH EFFORT #4 (Donation from Nathan Limbaugh, 8 Bloomfield Dr., Mt. Holly, NJ 08060): A small music zine from the hardcore world. Mostly this issue is reviews of records, although Nathan also interviews Supertouch by mail. Also interesting is his opening editorial, with some thoughts on fanzine ownership and pricing. (D-12r)

★★★★★

□**UNDERGROUND PRESS FANZINE** #1 ($1.25 from James Hollis Jr., 798-3rd Ave., Troy, NY 12182): A new music zine from our local scene right here in the Capital District of New York. A lot of it is focused on local bands, including a whole page of updates and an interview with Substance. They also talk to other bands passing through, like Fugazi, American Standard and Token Entry, and print a couple of pages of record reviews in this premiere issue. (S-12)

★★★★★

□**UNDERGROUND SCENE** #2 ($4 from Roberto Herrero, CII./T. Anitua #29 4oE, 20600 Eibar, SPAIN): A cool-looking hardcore and thrash zine, all in Spanish, with a lot of care put into a layout that is organized without losing the punk look. They've got scene reports from places as diverse as New York and Germany, interviews with bands like Whiplash, GBH, Lunatics and others who seem to be European rather than American, and lots more. They're looking for material for future issues too. (A4-64t)



FACTSHEET FIVE T-shirts are now available for $7.00, plus $1.50 postage and handling! Designed by Freddie Baer, they feature an appropriately enigmatic image of the small press, and come on a brilliant yellow shirt in sizes S-XL.

★★★★★

VICIOUS HIPPIES FROM PANDA HELL #8 (SASE from Box 115, 2718 SW Kelly #C, Portland, OR 97201): Music reviews and other goodies from the underground, printed on a variety of glare-heavy colored paper. Calamity Jane and Dangermouse have things to say in this issue, and the reviews concentrate on Northwest bands as well. (D-20r)

★★★★★

VICTORY MUSIC REVIEW Vol. 14 #11 ($15/yr from PO Box 7515, Bonney Lake, WA 98390): Victory Music is an organization of folks in the Pacific Northwest dedicated to alternative music: womyn's, folk, Irish, children's, jazz, you name it. They present loads of calendar information and a column on each type of music. One local musician is featured in each issue; on #11 it's percussionist Mark Filler. (S-24t)

★★★★★

□**VISION** #5 (6DM from Christoph, PO Box 568, Ch-4005 Basel, SWITZERLAND): A magazine of experimental noisy music that manages to be attractive without being flashy, thanks to an attention to details and little hand touches. This issue includes a 33RPM 7" from Ix-Ex-Splue, all mournful vocals and grungy guitar noise. Inside are folks like Culturecide, Touch, Psychic TV and many more. Text is all in German. (A4-33t)

★★★★★

WHATEVER RAMBLINGS #3 (50¢ from 5 Greenview Ave., Princeton, NJ 08540): This one is growing a bit and even developing a bit of editorial direction. Actually the direction rambles by design, with Alex doing some stream of consciousness writing which documents his scene pretty well. He also prints a Gwar interview and a rather disgusting short story. (S-14)

★★★★★

WHAT'S WHAT #11 ($1 (?) from 350 Cannady Ct., Atlanta, GA 30350): Relatively unpretentious music coverage that runs from the Ramones to the Flaming Lips. Also here in #11 are Fetchin Bones, Beastie Boys, and New Potato Caboose. It's all wrapped in a hand-colored cover. Now, if only they'd discover the shift key and stop SHOUTING everything... (S-12)

★★★★★

WHAT WAVE #18 ($5 from Dave and Rena, 17 Erie Ave., London, ONT, N6J 1H9, CANADA): This time around this mag of classic garage rock features a hard-vinyl EP with Deja Voodoo, the Gruesomes, and a couple of rockabilly types, as well as their usual load of print. The latter runs from Dik Van Dykes to Deja Voodoo to 1313 Mockingbird Lane and beyond, They talk about all-time greats and new demos, review live music and NMS, and generally seem to be having a heck of a good time. (S-52r)

★★★★★

WIRE Vol. VIII # VI ($6.50/4 issues from KCMU, Seattle, WA 98195): A cool music zine put out by what must be one of the cooler radio stations in Seattle. They roam around quite a bit; this issue includes an article on Gary Glitter and a chat with Roger Manning. They also cover the new copyright law, slang for the 90s, Mike Bidlo and the classic rock band Chrome. (S-32t)

★★★★★

□**ZINE** #1 ($2 from Jim O'Loughlin, 67 Oakland St. #1, Brighton, MA 02135): This is one of those borderline cases, with lots of music—chiefly jazzy improv and jamming bands I've never heard of—but lots of other stuff too. They talk about Dwight Frye's films, print some terribly confusing stories by larry D., and contain a few pages of sketches. Looks like there should be Vast Significance here, or at least folks havin' fun. (D-32t)

★★★★★

ZIP CODE #3 ($18 *CASH*/4 issues from Winterwood, 39 Banbury Close, Ladybridge Drive, West Hunsbury, Northampton, NN4 9UA, UK): A music zine that brings the news on all sorts of new and sorta trendy bands, many from the US, to their UK readers. Venus Flytrap, MDC, Fugazi, Pale Saints and American Music Club are among the names I see here. They interview the guy behind Heyday Records and review a whole lot of albums. Slick paper and nice layout and photos make this stand out visually. (A4-40t)

★★★★★

COMICS
K. LEMMING

THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN TESTAMENT #3-4 ($1.25 from Magi Graphics, 3637 30th St., Detroit, MI 48210): Superhero comics with well-done art and a mildly Christian feel to them, though no overt preaching. The story line here is complex and not-self-contained in any one book; you'd probably be best off reading the entire four-part series at a sitting. (D-16)

★★★★★

☐**AGONY** #1-4 (35¢ from Ed Stastny, 9018 Westridge Dr., Omaha, NE 68124): Yuckie-poo minicomics for the morbidly inclined. There's some nightmares here which cross over from the dream state to the real, a couple of gory deaths, a suicide, and people definitely over the edge psychologically. Each issue actually has a plot, unlike some gorefests. (M-8)

★★★★★

☐**THE AMAZING ARNIE** #15 ($1 from 8334 Amigo Ave. #14, Northridge, CA 91324): A crazy little comic strip by Tom Ferranti. In this issue Arnie, a sort of blob with a big nose, needs some batteries for his electric snood, so the artist draws himself into the strip to deliver them. The leads to lots of level-changing jokes, and ultimately to some sort of conclusion. (S-12)

★★★★★

☐**ATD5CHOZ6KK** #1 (50¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre-de-Coubertin #5, Montreal, QC, H1V 1V4, CANADA): A booklet of rather gory little drawings, interspersed with warnings about getting involved with underground comics—you'll only become a bum. Beaulieu draws ax murders and someone cooking his girlfriend's brains into soup with equal aplomb. (D-12)

★★★★★

☐**BADLY-DRAWN COMIX** #1 (65¢ postage from Martha Keavney, 418 Madison St., Hoboken, NJ 07030): The first collection of one of my favorite comic strips. Yes, they *are* badly-drawn; but they're also funny and self-referential, which makes the okay in my book. Besides, isn't it nice to see a comic admit that its artistic standards are low for a change? (S-11)

★★★★★

BEHIND THE MASK #2 ($1.25 from Lonepath Ltd., 1076 Curran St., Atlanta, GA 30318): A small comic from the creator of **CATHEDRALS OF THE DAMNED**. It features two stories, both with the air of something big going on and neither entirely self-contained. Dreams, demons, magic, future technology and more muddle together, with a nice artistic style that keeps it all fun. (D-16)

★★★★★

BIG SISTER #2 ($1 from Victor Gates, 552 Lancelot Dr., North Salt Lake, UT 84054): The continued adventures of Victor's new heroine, who is indeed a big woman—as in "overweight". After an electrifying experience (see #1) she's determined to fight for the rights of large women, and in this issue goes out looking for her peers to find out what to do for them. The book includes an extensive letter column and the backup feature "The Geep", about a young and somewhat confused Mormon. One of the better values in minicomics today. (M-28)

★★★★★

☐**BLUE HEAVEN** #1-3 (35¢ from PO Box 4452, Boulder, CO 80306): An attractive small comic. The storyline revolves around an age-old fight between secret societies that the narrator, a teen, has gotten unwittingly involved in. As the issues proceed, he (and the reader) slowly learn what's going on, amidst gunfire, explosions, and double-crosses. Nice dark artwork. (D-12)

★★★★★

BUF-O Vol. 5 #5 (*Trade ONLY* from Klaus Haisch, 1729 E. Tabor St., Indianapolis, IN 46203): A fanzine of comics, television series, and other popular culture. Much of #5 is devoted to the memory of CC Beck, who illustrated Captain Marvel for many years. Klaus also continues his project of listing and rating all the Twilight Zone episodes and prints a few pages of Jeff Smith's "The Protectors". (S-15)

★★★★★

☐**BUMPER CROP OF BITTER FRUIT** #1 ($1.50 from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): A selection of full-page drawings from Doug, mostly sort of downbeat. There's lots of black clothes and graveyards here; apparently he was having a rough time. A good introduction to the best of his graphic style. (S-16)

★★★★★

CAPTAIN OPTIMIST #5 ($2 from Allen Freeman, 157 Northwood Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601): Captain Optimist is a sort-of-superhero whose main power consists in making people optimistic. In this issue, that power runs away in a chain reaction, with rather strange consequences for the world. It's a silly story, but the art and lettering are up to the highest standards, which makes for an enjoyable book. (D-28)

★★★★★

CATFISH Book II (50¢ from PD Wilson, 3414 4th Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): A sort of cross between a minicomic and a mini porno story, made tough to read by very dark backgrounds behind the words and pictures. It looks like this is the result of drawing the originals on grocery bags rather than anything intentional. More confusing than erotic. (M-8)

★★★★★

CHAOS COMIX #12 ($1 from Randy, 1162 N. Park, Victoria, BC, V8T 1C8, CANADA): Crude but funny comics out of the punk world. There's Suicide Al, the crazy skater, people in squats, bad poetry, upset parents, arguments over music, and much more. Occasionally a bit shaggy doggish, but fun. (D-20)

★★★★★

CHAPEL ZONE #48 (75¢ from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir, Holden, MA 01520): This comic now includes Doug's reviewzine **SPUN** as an insert. Surrounding this are the usual "psychotic, disjointed funnies". Doug's style is still developing, and he's making it strongly recognizable while still interesting. Penguins from hell make an appearance in this issue. (D-12)

★★★★★

□**CHINATOWN REVIEW** Vol. 1 #1 (50¢ from Rikki Leeson, PO Box 37451, Honolulu, HI 96837): This is a new review of comics from the Philippines. Rikki reviews the artists rather than the particular books, since it may be easier to find different examples of work than an exact item. For $1 & postage (65¢ on a single book), you can order any number of these comics you want straight from Rikki—but be warned, they are all in Tagalog. (D-12)

★★★★★

□**CITY LIMITS** #3 ($2 from Bruce Chrislip, 8057 13th NW, Seattle, WA 98117): Three issues in ten years may explain why this only has a single-copy price. Anyhow, Bruce draws neat comics that are sort of warped, "Aha!" experiences and real life situations, an adaptation of the medium to something other than superhero stories. Some is silly, some thought-provoking, some just ordinary. Includes a hand-drawn **NOT MORTY COMIX** insert. (D-16 & M-4)

★★★★★

THE COMICIST #2-3 ($10/12 issues from Rocket Graphics, 1112 Bellwood Dr., Loveland, OH 45140): A good-looking comics news and review zine that so far is not overextending itself. In addition to reviews, they offer advice for the budding independent comics publisher. #3 explains in pretty fine detail how to write a script for a comic. (HL-16t)

★★★★★

COMIC UPDATE #109-110 (50¢ from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): Reviews from the comics world and other arenas, with a column of opinion and ranting by Dockery, poetry by pd wilson, and more. Mostly it's directed at the small press comics folks, but there are music reviews and they seem willing to look at other work. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**CRAPSHOOT** #1 ($1.50 from Darren Schenck, 35 Warrenville Rd., Middlesex, NJ 08846): This is the first comics review I've seen that's devoted to mainstream rather than independent comics. They review current issues of a whole bunch (around 40) of comics from Marvel, and have a column for Japanese *manga* as well. In addition, there's the first part of a comics tory here, "Stomp", set in a far-future postnuke age. (S-40)

★★★★★

DARK CHAOS #12 ($2 from Ed Stastny, 9018 Westridge Dr., Omaha, NE 68124): This one isn't all comics—there's an interview with Bloody Mess & the Skabs, to balance out the one with Randy Crawford—but most of it is. Besides the visuals Ed also gets in a whole mess of zine reviews and some editorial matter on flagburning and stuff. Cool artwork from Randy Carwford and Paul Pope, among others. (HL-48r)

★★★★★

DEADLINE #13 (£1.50 from 17 Leathermarket St., London SE1 3HN, UK): That's the newsstand price; I dunno what it would cost you to get one shipped here. The main content here is a bunch of futuristic comics, hard-edged stuff with tough women dating giant kangaroos or atomic babies smiting evil. In between, there's music reviews and short stories and video notes and other hip stuff. (A4-66t)0

★★★★★

□**DEAD PLOTTE** #2 (50¢ *CASH* from Julie Doucet, CP 553, Succ. 3, Montreal QC, H2L 4K4, CANADA): Resurrected from the ashes of her previous comic, **DIRTY PLOTTE**, this one requires a little (but not much) French to really appreciate. The comics are sort of gruesome but surreal, with the relationship between men, women and cartoonists coming in for much exploration. (D-16)

★★★★★

□**DISTORTED** #1 (35¢ from Agony Comics, 9018 West Ridge Dr., Omaha, NE 68124): A short and mostly wordless minicomic about the perils of watching television and smoking too much dope at the same time. Drawn by Chad Hudson in a nasty, dark style that reminds a bit of VIDEODROME. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**DOLO RÔMY** #1 ($3.95 & Age Statement from Dolo Blue Graphics, PO Box 80023, Minneapolis, MN 55409): Subtitled ""Dolo Rômy in the Underground City of Women", this is a lesbian adventure comic with a decidedly original dark and stylized graphic style. The hero is a young lesbian vagrant, who tracks down a friend in this vast all-lesbian underground city, and proceeds to get involved in foiling a coup. (S-40)

★★★★★

□**DUKE THE PIG** #1 (50¢ from Liam Brooks, 11439 A Ptarmigan Dr., Austin, TX 78758): A new mini from Liam featuring a lead character who is in fact a pig—both literally and figuratively, as he has the manners and tact of a stereotypical stevedore. In this first issue, Duke gets pissed off with his wife and spends a few pages in a bar brawl. (M-8)

★★★★★

DUNGAR THE BARBARIAN #32-33 (60¢ from Ian Shires, PO Box 360921, Strongsville, OH 44136): Dungar is currently wandering the world on a sailing ship in the company of a lady magician (a love interest for this series at last!) while the pirates home in on them. The story is starting to perk up again, and if nothing else, this minicomic is reliable. (M-24)

★★★★★

□**E&M COMIC NEWS** #4-5 ($1 from Matt Szewczyk, 18C Boyle Ave., Cumberland, RI 02864): Another entry into the independent comics review market. E&M concentrates mostly on the amateurs and self-publishers, rather than bigger comic markets. Besides reviews, #4 has an interview with Kim Kauffman about a tape she's put out. #5 grows to digest size, switches to a credit system (you get copies until your money runs out) and chats with Lee Erwin. (M-24/D-16)

★★★★★

FADE TO BLACK #2 (50¢ from Frank Lloyd Jr., PO Box 486, Richmond, WV 26261): A minicomic for the fan of gore. This issue starts off with a cover spattered with red in appropriately gory places. Inside there aren't any strips, just "pinup" pages of various disgusting characters and scenes. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**THE FIRST MAN WAS BORN DEAD** ($2.75 from Scott Cunningham, PO Box 1329, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10012): An angry, stark comic in a blood-red cover. Inside there is a fable, a modern apocalyptic myth, about the offspring of a mating between a she-monkey and space aliens. From this unholy union the New Age Man is born, and a fine specimen of Homo Schlub he is. I guess some people just don't *like* the New Age. (D-16)

★★★★★

FOR YOUR SKULL #20 (25¢ & a stamp from Carrie, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): Carrie's been opening up these pages to a wider variety of underground and marginal artists lately, and **FYS** is becoming quite a showplace. In addition to the art, this issue has interviews with Ralf Schulze, Duncan, and Ed Stastny. I liked it. (D-16)

★★★★★

THE GALVIN REPORT #2 (50¢ *CASH* from C.S. Smyth, 112 Mansfield Dr., Camillus, NY 13031): A somewhat scattered zine centered around major comic books and other media. There's stuff about trading cards, apparently random crime news stories, artwork by Tisch and other odds and ends here. (S-10)

★★★★★

□**GAMMON, GAMMON** #1-2 ($3/4 issues from Jon Lewis, 1420 E. Como Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55117): A very curious comic collection, with some short stories thrown in. Jon draws animals and kitchen utensils, aliens and plants, and somehow strings it all together. I did a lot of head-scratching with this one, but also a lot of chuckling. #2 has some dreadful Christmas strips and some curious pun comments. (D-28)

★★★★★

□**GOOD CLEAN FUN "THE ELVIS OF COMIC STRIPS" MONTHLY UPDATE** #1 ($1 from Gene Mahoney, c/o the Daily California, 2150 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704): You've seen Gene's work in **FF**; if you like it, this is the place to go for more of his comic humor, wall-to-wall. Who knows, ti could be the next big hit. Zine editors can get a sample for an SASE. (S-4)

★★★★★

□**HAM COMICS** #1 (25¢ & a stamp from Jim Conatser, PO Box 1337, Dubuque, IA 52001): There's two threads running through this comic: theology and postmen. There's not necessarily any connection, although one of the postmen does entertain theological thoughts. More intellectual than the average mini. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**HANS MARKINARAOSSA** (IRCs from Reima Makinen, Oksasenkatu 7A3, 00100 Helsinki, FINLAND): This is a comic book, well-drawn and apparently dealing with the humor of everyday life. It's also got lots of vowels and umlauts. In short, it's in Finnish, and while it looks good, I have no idea whether it's funny or not. (A5-20)

★★★★★

□**THE HERALD: ULTIMATE HUMANT #1** [herald]($1.25 from Magi Graphics, Freazie White Jr., 3637 30th St., Detroit, MI 48210): This comic is set in the same universe as **THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN TESTAMENT**, and shares the same successes and failures. The art is good and the superhuman mutant filled plot is fast and furious. But White writes dialogue as if he'd swallowed a thesaurus, and often gets the wrong word for what he's trying to say. Worse yet, the protagonist's name in this one is spelled two different ways, a slight but noticeable annoyance. (D-16)

★★★★★

JAKE THE RABBIT #4 (50¢ from Liam Brooks, 11439 A Ptarmigan Dr., Austin, TX 78758): This one is rapidly becoming one of my favorite minicomics. Apart from the fact that he's a rabbit, Jake is a pretty regular guy, trying to work out relationships with both his music and his girlfriend Maureen. Liam's art bears commenting too, as it's gotten quite a bit better since he started drawing Jake. Now it gives a good look at this life while not getting in the way of enjoying it. (M-16)

★★★★★

□**KARATE MAN #1** (75¢ from Larry Towsley, 5723 Riverford Dr., Raleigh, NC 27604): Premiere issue of a new comic with a sort of confused superhero martial arts type. Besides introducing the character, this gets him on the roof with a psycho, and strands him there in the classic "to be continued" move. Nice graphics, drawn without much detail for a quick read. (D-8)

★★★★★

□**KARKUS PRESENTS #1** (50¢ from K.D. Schmitz, RD 4 Box 217, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569): A minicomic of a battle between mutant mosters and happy peaceful auto mechanics. Just when you think it's over, Karl ends it with not one but two awful puns. Ouch! (M-8)

★★★★★

KARKUS RATUS #3 ($1 from K.D. Schmitz, RD 4 Box 217, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569): If there's a single word to describe this comic, it's "ouch!" Somehow the plot advances between cheap puns and visual gags, but it's tough going at times. Karkus is a clown who fled the circus and is now involved in a complicated plot with time travel, Santa Claus, a blonde in a bar, and other complications. (S-12)

★★★★★

□**KARNE KRUDA #1** (Raschid Rabi, Larrabure y Unanue 299-401, Lima 11, PERU): I classify this as a comics zine with some trepidation; while most of it is underground art (with a range reminiscent of **HEAVY METAL**), there are written chunks as well. This seems to focus on movies (*Batman* I can recognize, regardless of language barriers) and youth culture. (S-30)

★★★★★

□**KARPIT KING #1** (50¢ from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): Another curious minicomic from the Dockery line. I don't find this one quite as opaque as **DEMON HOUSE THEATER**, though it still suffers from trying to cram too much on the page. But basically it's the story of Slew, a loser who gets enmeshed with a hard-driving entrepreneur and his hooker girlfriend. Maybe. (M-8)

★★★★★

KING-CAT COMICS AND STORIES #9-10 (35¢ & a stamp from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Ln., Hoffman Est., IL 60194): A collection of charming comics from John; he has a style that looks like it ought to be crude but somehow comes off as economical instead. Many of these are drawn from life: finding a superball, being a jerk at a party, and so on. #10 has a healthy infusion of letters to other newspapers written by local wackos, a comment on the current "Mark Trail" storyline, and more. (D-12)

★★★★★

LANA'S WORLD #3 ($1 from How Do You Spell It Productions, PO Box 3633, Eugene, OR 97403): A collection of comics, sketches, and little written bits. Most have some connection to fighting sexism or what used to be called "women's lib". These range from funny to shocking, and while there's no "correct line" that all the contributors adhere to, thought about women's lives does play a bit part here. (HL-16)

★★★★★

L'ECHO DES CHANTIE #4 ($1 (?) & Age Statement from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre-de-Coubertin #5, Montreal, Quebec, H1V 1V4, CANADA): "Another comic about sexual frustration" that seems to be mostly an excuse to draw dirty pictures. Whether it's Sperman and his sidekick Morris the Friendly Sperm or the necrophiliac that opens things, this is pretty bluntly concentrated on the physical side of sex. (S-12)

★★★★★

□**LET A SNEER BE YOUR UMBRELLA** (50¢ from Haricots Verts, 468 Anita Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030): A computer-drawn minicomic featuring somewhat smartass talking cats. There are a batch of single-page strips here, dwelling on such things as eating shrimps from the counter and attacking bike messengers. (M-8)

★★★★★

LITTLE SKULL'S BAY-BEE #12 (One stamp from 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): Comics and opinion from the punk community. Carrie publishes drawn self-protraits, other odd art, and bits from her readers on subjects like heroin or slamdancing or whatever. Fun and short. (M-8)

★★★★★

□**MADNESS BY MAIL #2** ($1 from Caleb Hammond, 26 Pleasant St., Barre, MA 01005): A small comics zine with a slant towards barbarians—though one of the barbarians here bears a striking resemblance to our president. Caleb also reviews other comics—using his own rating system, the art and writing is at best "fair" here, but he's trying. (D-20)

★★★★★

□**MANTRA #8** ($1.50 from Steve Keeter, 513 N. Summerlin Ave., Orlando, FL 32803): Steve's been active in small press comics for twenty years now, and it shows. There's nothing too fancy about this collection, but there are no clunkers either. "The Beacon" is a superhero who enjoys beating people up, in a not-too-broad parody of the genre; "Man-Tonn the Savage" lives in a luch Neanderthal world with an alien spacewoman. There's also shorter features and a longish lettercol. (D-32)

★★★★★

MARVELOUS MARTHA'S GOOD OLD-FASHIONED COMICS #3 ($2 from PO Box 10696, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3696): A collection of work, including much to enjoy. King Crab's "The Story of the Eye-Hop" is a great childhood tale, Richard Gatten's "Dinin' with the Deity" is amusing, and Joel Orff's "The Ravine Express" is rather surreal. There's also some written work, including predictions for the 90's from futurist H.P. Effer. (D-36t)

★★★★★

baby sue

HATEFUL, VIOLENT, SADISTIC HUMOR

Subscription (4 issues) $8.00
Baby Sue T-shirt (M, L, XL) $8.00
NUMBLES cassette $7.00
(16 new LMNOP songs)
Send cash or check made to "cash."

SEND STAMP FOR FREE SAMPLE ISSUE!

Baby Sue, P.O. Box 1111, Decatur, GA 30031-1111

MELODY #4 ($2.50 & Age Statement from Kitchen Sink Press, No. 2 Swamp Rd., Princeton, WI 54968): Another chapter in this "True Story of a Nude Dancer", wrapping up the introductory story line. We've now established that Melody is a free spirit who enjoys orgies with her friends. Lots of sex (no nude dancing yet) balanced by character development and enjoyable art. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**METAL HEAD** ($3 from Banzai, PO Box 6555, Kansas City, KS 66106): A collection of the comic that appears in **BANZAI**, the KC heavy metal tabloid. Metal Head is a mutant creature, a rocker who's been modified by Dr. Lardas Fausterman and his nefarious mechanical brain. The resulting dude runs around town raping, maiming, and turning kids on to destructive death metal music. (S-13)

★★★★★

MIND THEATRE Vol. II #1 ($5/2 issues from Chris Gehman, 409 Parkside Dr. #3, Toronto, ONT, M6R 2Z7, CANADA): Back after too long an absence, this one features a variety of cutting edge comics, though Chris is now editor rather than part of a collective. Older readers will remember Glenn Grant's futuristic works, which still appear. There's also work from Jeff Curtis and Luna Ticks, among others. Chris also has a color collage poster available, a sort of despairing anti-tech plea, for $2 signed and sent in a tube. (S-28)

★★★★★

MISC. #32 ($1.25 from Randy Paske, High School Comics, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): A minicomic with work from around a dozen artists. You need to see a couple of issues before the main features, poking fun at the life of comics fans, will make a lot of sense. But there's plenty of immediately enjoyable pages from the likes of Brad Foster and David Lee Ingersoll. (M-32)

★★★★★

MONGO BOY #2 (50¢ from Dyslexic Comicpublic, PO Box 17863, Denver, CO 80217): A very strange microcomic, featuring a battle between the glaring Mongoboy and Charlie Brown, who proves to be the Devil in disguise. Much of the action takes place in Hell, and it looks bad for Mongo, but he gets the upper hand at last. (MM-32)

★★★★★

☐**MONK'S ON THE ROAD** (50¢ & a stamp from Mick Cusimano, PO Box 2565, Cambridge, MA 02238): An illustrated "fable by Leonardo Da Vinci", in minicomic form. Somehow Mick's strange style seems to work better with this sort of archaic stuff than it does with more modern subjects. A preview of the upcoming issue of **UNDERGROUND SURREALIST**. (M-8)

★★★★★

MUD #2 ($1 & SASE from Russell Christian, 137 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205): Russell calls this little booklet (3 by 7 1/2 inches) a "Home for orphaned graphics", mostly his own, although Marc Arsenault has some strong work in this issue. The drawings here tend to feature distorted people in distorted situations, with denouements that make no more sense than the real world does. (M-24)

★★★★★

NAIL IN TOOTH #4 ($5 from George Fontaine, c/o the Art Shack, 273 Rantoul St., Beverly, MA 01915): A collection of comics that tend to be more sketchy than realistic, with plots such as cleaning the windows of a starship or the explosion of a vending machine. The plots are OK, but the art is pretty substandard, even for the underground. (S-16)

★★★★★

☐**NAKED BRUNCH #1** (50¢ from Liam Brooks, 11439 A Ptarmigan Dr., Austin, TX 78758): A minicomic in which the characters are doing a poetry reading...leaving me to wonder where to review it. Jake the Rabbit hosts, and the poems come from Wayne Brenner, Mike Linick and Lydia Brooks as well as Liam. It's sort of fun, having a reading in the privacy of your own home. (M-16)

★★★★★

☐**NICHOLSON'S SMALL PRESS TIRADE #1** ($2.50 from Jeff Nicholson, PO Box 3684, Chico, CA 95927): I don't know if this is still available (it was published in September but my copy got here by devious channels) but it you've been involved with small press comics you should try to get hold of it. Nicholson blasts the whole hobby, shouting out that the Emperor has no clothes, there is no "revolution", there is no "movement", just a bunch of mostly no-talent geeks drawing for each other. He says all the things that the careful reviewer avoids—and as a bonus, the art here is 100% better than that in most minicomics. (M-48)

★★★★★

☐**NOT ALL DUCKS COMICS** ($1 from Bill Coleman, PO Box 29, Peter Stuyvesant Stn., New York, NY 10009): Nope, not all ducks, but certainly mostly ducks, centered on the life of film student and general failure Dippy Duck. The other major strips concern the Willoughbys, a sort of updated Cleaver family. Much of the work here strikes me as shaggy dog comics, funny only by not being funny or directed towards a punch line. Competent art and a few chuckles. (D-20)

★★★★★

☐**PAPER DREAMS #1** (75¢ from Randy Paske, 4841 Birch Ln., Gilbert, MN 55741-9631): Collaborative comics from Paul Tumey and James Gill, done in round-robin fashion, with each adding panels and plot complications before passing to the other. The art is primitive but not annoying, and the opening story, "The Lost Pictures", is quite fun. I'm not sure I grokked "We Are Going to Mars", though. (M-16)

★★★★★

☐**PLASMA #1** ($1.50 from PerPlex, PO Box 451, Ridgefield, CT 06877): Wild cinematic futuristic comics set in a world controlled by The Company. There's a good deal of so-far senseless violence here, setting the background of a monopolistic control structure that doesn't much care about being nice. There's also a couple pages of audio cassette reviews, also in comic format. (D-24)

★★★★★

☐**POSTMORTEM FUNNIES #2** ($1 from Dave Matthews, 226 Columbia Dr., Aliquippa, PA 15001): Comics designed to offend and perhaps amuse. Lots of public figures, from Kitty Dukakis to Julie Brown, get poked at in this issue. There's also psychedelic pornographic dreams and a bit of teenaged racism. (D-8)

★★★★★

☐**PURGATORY U.S.A. #1** ($1.50 from Ed Brubaker, 1425 Harrison St. #330, Oakland, CA 94612): A pretty funny comic story from the fringes of the scene. It's about "The last time Tommy went to a Nite Club". Said Tommy gets too drunk, too nasty, and too beat up. Anyone who's ever gone on a bender and screwed up an evening completely will appreciate this one. (D-16)

★★★★★

☐**RIP OFF COMIX #24** ($13/4 issues from PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604): One of the best of the traditional underground comics, featuring a lot of mildly outrageous work. Some of the offerings in this issue include Wayno's recollections of a high school underground newspaper, Mary Fleener's flirtation with upsetting the ecosystem, and a couple of pieces revolving around that cultural Mecca, Disneyland. There's also the classic "Fat Freddy's Cat" and lots of other goodies. (S-48)

★★★★★

SELF PUBLISHER! Vol. 1 #10 ($1.25 from Dimestore Stories, PO Box 360921, Strongsville, OH 44136): A frequent and reasonably regular review of "small press" comics—that is, generally amateur (and mostly mini) comic work. Ian has a somewhat different view of this world than most reviewers, concerned with the "pro" possibilities of the small press. But his reviews are fairly informative and pull no punches, making this a useful little zine. In January Ian contributed to his reputation for self-congratulation by producing **THE BEST OF SP!**, with a history of his own remarkable exploits. (HL-18)

★★★★★

SNOWBUNI BLIZZARD #7 ($2.50 from Jeff Wood, PO Box 95198, Seattle, WA 98145-2198): Snowbuni is probably Jeff's most famous comic character. She's a short, well-built, rabbit-eared and -tailed secret agent who manages to pack a lot of firepower under her tight jumpsuits. A variety of artists contribute to her adventures, often involving violence as well as hints of sex. A comic to appeal to the "furvert" mentality (as lovers of these human/animal combinations call themselves. (D-32)

★★★★★

SOCIAL VOMIT #6 ($1 from Mike Canich, PO Box 31, Romeo, MI 48065): Art and writing from Mike, with sort of a fanzine noir ambience. The main feature here remains "Clyde", a story of someone going through a very rough life. This issue flashes back to his birth and finding out later that it killed his mother. Sort of bleak. There's some short stories and a few music reviews tucked away in the back. (S-26)

★★★★★

☐**STEP DOWN YOUR THROAT COMICS** ($1 from The Funny Farm Freaks, 2211 Prud'homme #12, Montreal, Quebec, H4A 3H3, CANADA): Handprinted multicolored comics with a chip on their shoulder. The look here is beautiful, but the subjects are decidedly strange, starting off with the Marx Brothers on their way to hell. A very artistic production, and a group of artists that bears watching. (HL-24)

★★★★★

☐**SUBURBAN GUERRILLA** ($1 (?) from Jim Kempkes, 41-A Hazelhurst Rd., Rochester, NY 14606): A comic made by collaging together various images from ads and magazines with typed-in captions and dialogue. It concerns the life of Marty Flea, a man who cracks under the strain of modern life and decides to go after all the human garbage with his trusty gun. (S-5)

★★★★★

☐**SUBWAY #2** ($1 from Ethan Michaels, 254 Porter College, UCSC, Santa Cruz, CA 95064): A collection of somewhat scary comics and short stories. There seems to be a certain fascination here with the strange and seedy faces of the world, from drunkeness to anomie to drugs. Looking for submissions and articles. (D-24)

★★★★★

TALES FROM ROSLYN #5 ($1 from Ed Zolna, PO Box 1278, Roslyn, PA 19001): The further comic adventures of Fran and Maabl and the strange scrawny aliens who they're messing around with. The comedy of errors (will they or won't they destroy the world?) gets more complex here, and you should really order the previous issues to understand this comic book. Sort of cutesy in spots, but well-plotted enough to hold the interest. (M-24)

★★★★★

TECHNO BODY WAY Vol. 2 #4 (L.4000 from Enrico Aresu, v. Nazionale, 40, 95040 Piano Tavola, Catania, ITALY): A sort of mail art/new wave comic book, with most contents strictly in Italian although one short strip is captioned in an English/Italian hybrid. The work is artistically interesting, with a lot of detailed postmodern comics work. (S-32)

★★★★★

☐**THAT DAMN CAT #1** ($1 from Natt Rabb, 612 Wyndhurst Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210): A strange disconnected sort of comic. There's an awful lot of scene-switching, which helps disguise the fact that the plot is more convoluted than sensible. Natt throws in a batch of comics and music cliches, and seems to have a lot of fun with this medley of cats, samurai salesmen, lunches that turn into toy cars, senseless violence, and other whatnot. (S-12)

★★★★★

☐**TICOUNE ZE WHIZ TORNADO #1-2** ($3 *CASH* from Editions du Phylactere inc., 1576 boul. St-Joseph, app. 2, Montreal, QC, H2J 1M7, CANADA): Ticoune is this pudgy little boy who sees too much Batman stuff and starts emulating the caped crusader, building his own costume, floundering about the city. Along the way he seems to develop some prowess, meets up with a hooker, and does a lot of bizarre, unconnected things—the plot here is tenuous at best. Very dense, dark, heavy drawing style is striking. (D-48)

★★★★★

TRUE TALES #2-4 (25¢ from No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): The editor here has been dealing with his own slowly surfacing memories of childhood sexual abuse, and is trying to work some of them out on paper. This isn't graphic stuff for those who get off on such things, but an honest attempt to deal with tales "too terrible to tell". #4 features a chilling lullaby. (M-16)

★★★★★

TWISTED IMAGE NEWSLETTER #13-14 ($1 from 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): If you can't get enough of Ace Backwords, then this is the place to go, his own zine which prints all of his new comics plus anything else he writes. In #14 that includes a pile of music reviews and an interview from **COMICS F/X**. Not politically correct, but definitely funny. (S-6)

★★★★★

TWO BIT SCI FI #1 (50¢ from Martin Robaszewski, 130 New Rd. #E-14, Parsippany, NJ 07054): The cover here is nice, a futuristic motorcycle leaping over a barbed wire fence with the sign "city limits", bu the interior is a disappointment. The plot is basic gunfighting, and the art is submarginal at best. Martin is looking for someone else to ink, which may help. (D-8)

★★★★★

☐**VAE NATIBUS #1** ($2.50 from 1417 2A St. NW, Calgary, AB, T2M 2X5, CANADA): A neat new comic with lots of good screwy work. I liked Kevin Kurytnik's look at a bad day in the life of the Grim Reaper and Mark Lang's derangement of children's television. Colin Krawchuk's look at the world of death is a lot more depressing and disturbing. (D-24)

★★★★★

☐**VOODOO** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre-de-Coubertin, Montreal, Quebec, H1V 1V4, CANADA): A joint production of Kurt and Steven Grant, full of angry and snotty drawings. There's a short story about death by art, a couple of vaguely original deaths, and a comic dreaming of small press success. (S-12)

★★★★★

☐**VULGAR PICTURES** (25¢ from R. Malice, 3538 18th #6, San Francisco, CA 94110): A collection of single-panel drawings that range from obscene to, well, obscener. Garfield the cat, anti-AIDS posters, television, family life, all are grist for this artist's fertile and deranged brain. (M-8)

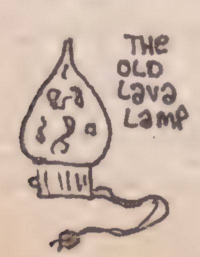
★★★★★

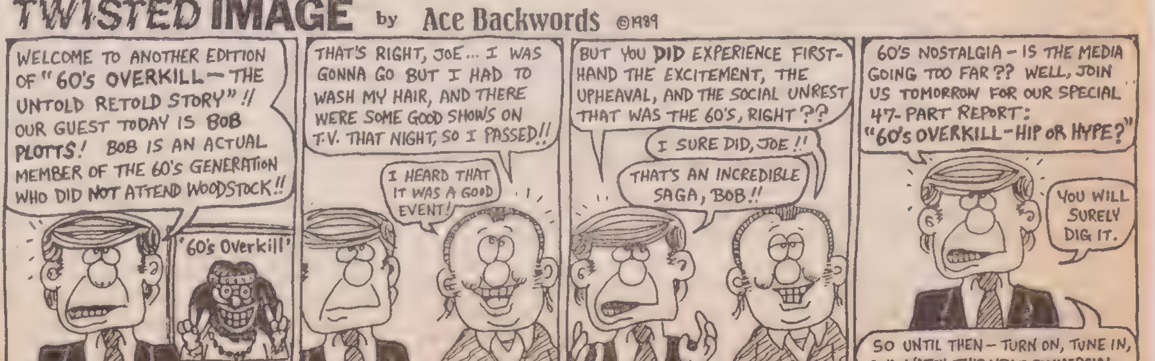
☐**THE WORLD IS A STRANGE PLACE TO SIT IN** (SASE "and a bit of artwork with the words 'Hi Jason!' in it" from Jason Sadofsky, 197 Beacon St. #2F, Boston, MA 02116): A comic of new wavoid self-caricatures of the artist, searching for some alternative to sitting in this world. If you like the bits of Jason;s work you've seen in FF, you should definitely check this out. (D-8)

★★★★★

☐**XL5** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from Eric Theriault, 1289 Barre #1, Montreal, Que., H3C 1N1, CANADA): A small comic with two strips by Eric. The first is a rather disjointed science fiction adventure. The second follows the contrasting life cycles of city and nature, arguing that neither one is inherently superior to the other. (D-8)

★★★★★


THE OLD Lava Lamp


TWISTED IMAGE by Ace Backwords ©1989
WELCOME TO ANOTHER EDITION OF "60'S OVERKILL — THE UNTOLD RETOLD STORY"!! OUR GUEST TODAY IS BOB PLOTTS! BOB IS AN ACTUAL MEMBER OF THE 60'S GENERATION WHO DID NOT ATTEND WOODSTOCK!!
'60's Overkill'
THAT'S RIGHT, JOE... I WAS GONNA GO BUT I HAD TO WASH MY HAIR, AND THERE WERE SOME GOOD SHOWS ON T.V. THAT NIGHT, SO I PASSED!!
I HEARD THAT IT WAS A GOOD EVENT!
BUT YOU DID EXPERIENCE FIRST-HAND THE EXCITEMENT, THE UPHEAVAL, AND THE SOCIAL UNREST THAT WAS THE 60'S, RIGHT??
I SURE DID, JOE!!
THAT'S AN INCREDIBLE SAGA, BOB!!
60'S NOSTALGIA - IS THE MEDIA GOING TOO FAR?? WELL, JOIN US TOMORROW FOR OUR SPECIAL 47-PART REPORT: "60's OVERKILL-HIP OR HYPE?"
YOU WILL SURELY DIG IT.
SO UNTIL THEN - TURN ON, TUNE IN, AND WATCH THIS NEXT COMMERCIAL...

Poetry reviews are by pj bellomo (pj) and The Æditor (MG).

★★★★★

ALABAMA DOGSHOE MOUSTACHE #6 ($1 .45 from Geof Huth, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): A collection of poems that range from mildly confusing to utterly experimental; the concluding works by John Bennett and Jake Berry have drifted far enough away from language that they are more graphics than anything else. Cliff Dweller plays with typography giving a booming emphasis to some phrases, while Alan Catlin considers a society that's running down, reflecting some of the other poems within these pages. (D-12t)(MG)

★★★★★

Alvaro, **MEN DON'T CRY THEY SING** (Squeaky Shoes Records, Zähringerplatz 4, 7750 Konstanz, WEST GERMANY): Poetry and lyrics from Alvaro, "The Chilean With the Singing Nose". Some of these work without his unique voice, others don't. The best of them are those in Spanglish patois (others are in Spanish or English, with German translations provided) that deal with Latin America from the perspective of small, everyday things. (D-52r)(MG)

★★★★★

Winona Baker, **NOT SO SCARLET A WOMAN** ($6.95 from Red Cedar Press, 606 First St., Nanaimo, BC, V9R 1Y9, CANADA): Enjoyable humorous feminist verse. Baker is uppity and proud of it—how many poets would write a reply to Eliot called "Dare to Eat Peaches"? I also enjoyed the "Carping" section, including "Lines to an Ascetic" which starts out "For god's sake shut up/I'm sick of cleverness..." (D-55t)(MG)

★★★★★

Clif Bennett, **AUGUST TO DECEMBER** ($2 from RR2, Hawkestone, ONT, L0L 1T0, CANADA): Clif writes poetry in traditional modes, this being sort of long-lined blank verse, heavily peppered with classical allusions. It moves around from the world as a whole to relationships, developing all in a slow, measured pace. Not the manic intensity of most poetry we review, but a pleasanter, more relaxed tone. (D-18t)(MG)

★★★★★

John Bennett, **MILK** ($2 from Luna Bisonte Productions, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): If you've never seen a Bennett poem you've missed a lot. He, or at least his poetic voice, lives in a world where anything can happen—as long as it's nasty. Especially after hearing a tape of his readings, the cadences here send shivers up my spine. Catch some Bennett for the 1990s; some time this decade everyone will be talking like this. (D-8)(MG)

★★★★★

John Bennett, **TIDE** (50¢ from Luna Bisonte Productions, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): Four linked poems in a mini from John. They're in his usual breathless, scary style, full of everyday objects that seem to have deep meaning and actions that endorse paranoia as a way of life. The last word of each poem is the title for the next, with the fourth leading back to the beginning. Trapped! (M-8)(MG)

★★★★★

Mark Bloch, **ANTHEMS OF HOPE AND TERROR** ($2 (?) from PO Box 1500, New York, NY 10009): A collection of poems written over an 8-year period from 1979 to 1987. Mark apparently collected them on scraps of paper, and now here they are all photocopied together. It's hard to pick out threads in a work this sprawling, but one common concern seems to be just dealing with the world, finding a way past futility. He also explores the dimensions of fame, in mostly oblique ways. Gut-level stuff, very spontaneous feeling. (S-30)(MG)

★★★★★

Drew Blood, **FABULOUS RUIN** ($2 from 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): The title may well refer to all of civilization; things here are not pretty. Strong offerings include the punk rock evaluation "What's Past and Present" and several AIDS poems, the best being the ACT-UP inspired "Silence = Death (A Rant)". "Pneumocystitis at Christmas" also gets very close to the bone. A writer to watch. (D-20r)(MG)

★★★★★

BONESAUCE #10 ($1 from 123 Stonewall #4, Memphis, TN 38104): #10 is a special issue of this poetry zine with all the works by editor Peter Mantis. It's a confusing ramble through life, family and love (or at least sex with Elvis), as well as anticipating critical reactions of confusion, which is precisely what he gets from this reviewer. This seems to be poetry directed more at getting words on paper than at communicating them to the reader. (D-18r)(MG)

★★★★★

Les Bridges, **THEY'LL NEVER TAKE US ALIVE** ($3 from Lyndawn Inc., 127 Fourth Ave. #4B, New York, NY 10003): Bridges writes in short, staccato bursts, of sex and violence and living in the city. Quick glimpses of strange sex, hopeless folks ("This is New York. Take the money.") and memories of affairs past sprinkle these pages. Bluntness and rhythm. (D-28)(MG)

★★★★★

Brian Burch, **NEXT EXIT** ($6 from The Plowman Printing House, PO Box 414, Whitby, ONT, L1N 5S4, CANADA): A collection of socially-relevant poetry with some fine imagery running through it—like the Bible being used to drive tent pegs for a protest. Brian writes of ecological problems and unemployment and the hassles of children and a lot of other things, in a strong voice that's a joy to read. (D-32t)(MG)

★★★★★

CAMELLIA #3 (45¢ from PO Box 3406, Oakland, CA 94609): A short poetry zine that seems to be into rather hermetic and fantastic poems. The situations here are more real than life and twice as intriguing, from a musical skyline in Prague to the effects of moonlight. (D-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

CITY RANT #1 ($1 from McOne USA, PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763): A fast-flowing collection of work by John McElhenney, with the cover blurb "The electric coffee confessions of a poet, once insane". It's good stuff, full of sharp neon-edge images of life in the midst of too many people and too much stuff. I also liked the updated version of the person from Porlock who ruins a poem late in the book. (D-32t)(MG)

★★★★★

CUZ #3 ($3.95 from The Poetry Project, St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery, 2nd Ave & 10th St, NY, NY 10003): The art in this journal has the feel of being art-by-professionals. Ironically, a candid interview (recommended reading) with the immoral Nick Zedd reveals an artist/film-maker distinctly offended by the middle class art world. Having said all this, I still feel that the editor brings together diverse and interesting poems, not to mention the engaging excerpts from Through the Windshield by Michael Decapite. (D-95)(pj)

★★★★★

Ken DiMaggio, **THE CHEVROLET POEMS** ($1 from Ken DiMaggio, 209 Avenue M Apt #1, Brooklyn, NY 11230): This chapbook contains 3 relatively long poems titled "Chevrolet," "Chevrolet II," and "Chevrolet III." It's a "chevy" presumably because of the long-standing reputation that make of car has with the "basic" or "simple." These are essentially long prosaic rants, interrupted only by stanza breaks. The subjects move swiftly from imperialist US foreign policy to the score of the latest "ball game;" the mannequins (i.e. people on the street) prefer discussing the ball game. Although the style becomes tiresome, it does reach its peak in the third poem. (HL-16)(pj)

★★★★★

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES #28 ($1 from David Kopaska-Merkel, 4801 Cypress Creek Dr. #1004, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405): A selection of work with fantastic overtones of one sort or another. For some reason plants and sex seem to be the most common topics in #28, with a fine multiple-level poem about a farmer and a magic stick by Stan Proper. Alan Catlin and Paul Weinman look at people caught in the grip of various madnesses. (D-18t)(MG)

★★★★★

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES #29 ($5/6 issues from David Kopaska-Merkel, 4801 Cypress Creek Dr, #1004, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405): It is important to note that the above address is new, and that all correspondence should be addressed to the editor, not D&N. This issue seems smaller than usual, containing more dreamy poems and graphics than nightmarish ones. For those who thrive on controversy, "Weresong" by Lee Barwood is published here; a poem that worships darker things, and that generated protest from some conservative folks in the Midwest a few years ago after a radio show in Missouri. (D-18)(pj)

★★★★★

David Dubrow, **A HAPPY PATH** ($4 from 7117 Woodhollow #1718, Austin, TX 78731): A book of poetry prefaced with a metaphysical justification and shot through with the occasional reference to Leary or Gnosticism. David starts from a perspective of using belief to mold reality, and in turn uses this idea to mold his poetry. The result is a whirling universe of change where the poetry sometimes seems a bit forced but the ideas continue to grow. (S-23t)(MG)

★★★★★

Lainie Duro, **A MURDERED ETERNITY** & Edward Mycue, **GRATE COUNTRY** ($1 (?) from Lainie Duro, Oyster Publications, 723 N. Highland Ave, Arlington Hts, IL 60004): This is two chapbooks in one; each starts at one of the covers, though you must flip the book to read the other author. Lainie's stuff is a mixture of primitive poems and sketches, the driving force being memories of a bittersweet love. Ed's work is diverse, the one common thing being the ever-present 1st person. Here's "Clouds on the Roof," his shortest poem in this collection: "Sheep ate the Shepard." (HL-60)(pj)

★★★★★

THE ENCHANTED MOUNTAIN MONTHLY (50¢ from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A new magazine of poetry with a pretty depressing first issue. A young kid views a dead father at a funeral, not understanding; another poet writes of cars crushed in the San Francisco earthquake. Ken also lists a few contests and reviews a few zines. He's looking for work for future issues. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

FEH! #7 ($5 *CASH*/3 issues from PO Box 5806, Stn. B, Montreal, Que., H3B 4T1, CANADA): So you've never heard of **FEH!**? Well, there's more than a full page of poetry here devoted to excrement—and that's just one of the subjects it wallows in. Odious poetry is the name of the game, and with the limericks and poems here there's a lot to choose from. Whether it's smut or bad translations or the possibility that the poet was dead when starting the poem, you'll find lots that won't be published elsewhere. (HL-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

H.R. Felgenhauer, **INSECTS ARE PEOPLE TOO** ($2.50 from PO Box146486, Chicago, IL 60614): The poems and graphics combine to create a rich science-fiction fantasy environment. Many poems outlined quick stories, often with bizarre twists. The graphic display never quits, though there's some dis-appointment in that laborious, recurring motif of fierce, scantily clad muscle-heads; an affliction from which this genre frequently suffers. (S-28)(pj)

★★★★★

FINE MADNESS Vol. 6 #2 ($5 from PO Box 15176, Seattle, WA 98115-1076): The poetry here tends to be more intricate and complex than much of that in the small press, well-rewarding the effort needed to mine it. There is a lot here, but a few highlights include Ann Pitkin's deeply meotional "Oncology" and the short poems of Martin Sorescu translated from the Romanian. Others worth mentioning include Dan Raphael, Belle Randall, and Stacey Sollfrey. (D-80t)(MG)

★★★★★

Dennis Formento, **HAND SIGNALS** ($3 from Acre Press, 1521 N. Lopez, New Orleans, LA 70119): A cataloguing of some of the ills of modern life, from bureaucracy to government cheese. Along the way there is a chunk translated from the works of Hans Arp and the title poem, which reminds me of John Bennett in its intensity of everyday life. (D-32r)(MG)

★★★★★

FREE LUNCH #3 ($4 from Free Lunch Arts Alliance, PO Box 7647, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): Subscriptions are free to "all serious American (U.S.) poets," but I listed the $4/ish cause Dylan Thomas wouldn't have qualified on either count. Anyway, the poems in this journal generally have a precise, unemotional quality (w/notable exceptions) about them. Take "The Quiltmaker" by Renee Epstein: "Met a one-eyed woman, he told me...Her eye was a coal sack, he told me,/Skin-tied to keep what she knew/Warm inside her." Unemotional? Perhaps, but often handy with a knife. (D-33)(pj)

★★★★★

THE GALLEY SAIL REVIEW #34 ($3 from 1630 University Ave. #32, Berkeley, CA 94703): A collection of poems from quite a number of folks, many on the traditional end of things, but certainly far from moribund. Favorites in this issue include "Writing About Marriage" by Jennifer MacPherson, neatly capturing the feeling of being captured, and Sarah Blake's "Shadows". (D-48t)(MG)

★★★★★

Gilbert Garcia, **NEKKID ALL DA TIME** (2 stamps from 7107 Westgate, Austin, TX 78745): Short poems that blast right down the page at breakneck speeds. Gilbert alternates between a sort of manic energy and a quiet, almost desperate sensitivity. I find the latter bits more appealing; maybe the first sign of encroaching age. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

Gilbert Garcia, **TWENTY ONE POEMS** (2 stamps from 7107 Westgate, Austin, TX 78745): More handwritten depth-dredgings from Gilbert. He's doing a lot of questioning in this book—about being a poet, about the world, about love, abotu suicide. Overall it looks like there's a lot of sparks of hope buried here, but it's hard to dig them out sometimes. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

GIANTS PLAY WELL IN THE DRIZZLE... #24 (Sample on request from Martha King, 326-A Fourth St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A no-frills poetry zine that has some nice quirky voices, with works close to the mainstream but still interesting. I enjoyed the excerpts from George Stanley's historical "San Francisco's Gone" and its pile of memories. The sheer rhythms of Kim Lyons' work also attract. (S-8)(MG)

★★★★★

GUTS #7 ($2.50 from Keith A. Dodson, Guillotine Press, PO Box 2730, Long Beach, CA 90801): A fine collection of modern poetry, all hard lines and blunt talk about sex and violence and abortion and homelessness and all the other warts on the face of the world. Judson Crews, Arthur Winfield Knight, Paul Weinman, Kurt Nimmo and John Eberly are among the many poets here. Lorri Jackson's "Bad Cup of Coffee" is one of the most raging looks inside a bad love affair I've seen. (D-34r)(MG)

★★★★★

GYPSY #12/13 ($5 from Belinda Subraman, 10708 Gay Brewer Dr., El Paso, TX 79935-2004): This is here because I think of **GYPSY** as primarily a poetry mag, even though Belinda publishes a fair number of short stories and gives lots of space to full-page art. Nevertheless, it's the poetry, by folks like Huffstickler and Memmott and Karin Spranzel, that really stands out for me here. Many of the pieces are just this side of being too experimental, far enough from the mainstream to provoke but close enough to speak to the average reader. Belinda's own wistful closing poem lends a nice touch to the overall collection. (S-72)(MG)

★★★★★

Richard F. Harvey, **TEARS OF THE SAMURAI** ($2 (?) from 181 Vermont Ave N.W., Warren, OH 44485): Poems fueled by the author's experiences in or emotions of the Viet Nam War. Like many such efforts, this work comes-across as a therapeutic exorcism. But this has worth for more than the author alone. This is history as well as art. "Pappy," which begins "No one remembers crying at birth..." was my favorite; it develops into a metaphor about sudden light (as at birth) causing people to cry, and how "saving a life" in Nam could evoke tears of pain from the saved—as if death offered the comfort of a womb. (D-40)(pj)

★★★★★

Crag Hill, **AMERICAN STANDARD** ($3 from Runaway Spoon Press, Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): Chapbook of brief, visual poetry. Hill is really clever. Though sometimes thought-provoking, it's really the humor that makes this special. Take "Sin thesis": "Adam and Eve collaborate." Or "Possessed": " John's' ." BEaUtiFUL? (M-40)(pj)

★★★★★

Alan Howard, **SOMEONE'S BEDROOM** ($1.45 from PO Box 1386, Columbia, SC 29202-1386): A collection from the editor of **TRAMP**. Alan has a very spare poetic voice, using just enough words to make his point and then going on to the next poem. There's almost a fogginess about some of these pieces, a hesitation of memory, as in "Must Be Things I've Lost..." which gradually trails off into remembrance that need not speak further. (D-19)(MG)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **PIECE OF BRANDON: A FRAGMENTATION** ($3 (?) from Slough Press, PO Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): A longpoem set in a mental institution (and following the protagonist outside of it, apparently in flashback). It rushes down the page, reporting on one problem after another, and showing that institutionalization is not so much a way of fixing problems as dealing with them. It ends on an epiphanic note, and a rather unexpected one at that. (HS-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Albert Huffstickler, **SOUL GALLERY** ($3.50 from Press of Circumstance, 312 E. 43 #103, Austin, TX 78751): These are poems of people who have been passed by by the American Dream, and so are condemned to a life of one day after another with no great events, no great successes, just another night's sleep to look forward to. That doesn't prevent tragedies, though—one of these poems is about the death of the poet's young granddaughter. Huffstickler doesn't abandon hope, though; "Reunion" holds out the promise that eventually we will all be reunited with our dreams. (D-38t)(MG)

★★★★★

Idy, **CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE SOME OF MY BETTER POEMS?** (25¢ from 516 3rd St. NE, Massillon, OH 44646): A selection of short and sometimes silly poetry from Idy. There's no big points here, no super-deep meanings. I liked "Orange", which starts off "Don't be afraid/It's only the cactus..." (M-8)(MG)

★★★★★

Idy, **CHALK OUTLINE OF A DEAD GECKO** (50¢ from 516 3rd St. NE, Massillon, OH 44646): Like many of us, Idy spends school time writing about other things. Unlike most of us, he publishes them. These are poems and the occasional story, many about the problems of being locked into a non-rewarding chunk of life, made a bit less typical by his strong spiritual underpinnings. Nothing fancy, just a self-exploration on paper. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

IMPETUS 17 ($3 from Cheryl Townsend, 4975 Comanche Trail, Stow, OH 44224): A poetry journal peppered with both graphics and reviews. The print quality was poor this time around, but with a little squinting one could discern some interesting poetry. An "animal rights" theme jumps out of the 1st couple of pieces; C.L. Frost was particularly crafty with "Specimen." Later, Joe Williams indicts society w/"The Day They Fried Ted Bundy." You'll find novice work interspersed with more polished poems. (HL-84)(pj)

★★★★★

Will Inman, **GOSPEL ACCORDING TO A LOVER OF GOD** ($3.50 from PO Box 62328, Tuscon, AZ 85734): This chapbook contains 14 poems, each 13 lines long, which mythically explore aspects of Christ's life and teachings from a relatively radical christian perspective. As the title implies, this is not an artistic attack on Christianity but instead a new artistic perspective from a worshiper. Form seems important to the author, each word being carefully chosen. Full appreciation of this depends on a thread of shared faith; given that thread, these mythical poems should strike deep. (D-14)(pj)

★★★★★

Will Inman, **SCALES TO HOOFS, FINS TO WINGS** ($3.65 from PO Box 62328, Tuscon, AZ 85734): More of Inman's spiritual poems, with a brief but important introduction by the author, guiding the reader through the poems. These are rich works, drawing images from the annals of literature and mythology, but always speaking to the here and now. The ten, 13-line poems in response to the nonsense over "The Last Temptation of Jesus Christ" are blunt and unavoidable: "fundamentalists fix Jesus with cosmetic/putty: or they would if he would just stay/still...." (D-32)(pj)

★★★★★

Will Inman, **VOICE OF THE BEECH ORACLE** ($2 from PO Box 62328, Tuscon, AZ 85734): Subtitled "A Shaman Song," this is written in 13 short stanzas. The language is not poetic per se, but it is non-prose in that parts of speech are omitted, such as articles and helping verbs: "Priest not like Shaman. Shaman teach/people secret love. Priest go get soldier,/bring soldier to mountain, stand, watch/while Shaman talk before beech tree." This encounter between these two religious persons gets more interesting. R. Betner contributes a sensuous cover drawing of bodies rapped about a beech tree. (D-12t)(pj)

★★★★★

Will Inman, **A WAY THROUGH FOR THE DAMNED** ($4.50 from PO Box 62328, Tuscon, AZ 85734): Generally speaking, the symbols, objects, and images in this poetry chapbook are ageless. In fact, if it wasn't for Inman's free verse style, you'd be hard-pressed to place this work in any particular time period. Of course, Inman's spirituality is present once again, though this time lurking mostly in the background. My favorite was "The Argument," where the poet mocks the Rainbow; at one point the following exchange occurs with respect to the Rainbow's curve: "An upside-down smile, i observe...Only to one who is upside down, smiles Rainbow."

★★★★★

Kathleen K., **MAKE ME TAKE IT LET ME HAVE IT** ($2 from Laocoon Books, PO Box 20518, Seattle, WA 98102): Kathleen apparently finds writing erotic poetry as natural as breathing. Indeed, even the rhythms of breath are here, some pieces being short gasps, others slow and languid. With no titles and only minor breaks between the poems, this becomes an immersion in the erotic, touching, feeling, moving and climaxing. (D-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Karl Kempton, **A POND OF STARS** ($3 from Runaway Spoon Press, Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): This collection of short poems opens with a haiku, setting the tone for the remainder of the chapbook. The following is an exemplary piece: "bee kloud thru orchard/and around me/more fear reflext/than of war/roosted on the horizon/eating holes in the ozone." Note how this pleads to be read aloud, and more than once at that. Although the author might not consider this haiku, these works certainly would be of great interest to haiku enthusiasts. (M-48)(pj)

★★★★★

Laura B. Kennelly, **THE PASSAGE OF MRS. JUNG** ($2 from Norton Coker Press, Ed Mycue, PO Box 640543, San Francisco, CA 94164-0543): Laura's poetry reads as through a veil, full of hidden meanings not-quite-grasped at first glance. Oh, there are some straightforward poems, but even these are unusual, as with "After a Class in Beowulf", where a glance from a classmate (obviously male to female) transports the poet back in imaginary time to "Pre-Celtic burial pits/Slaves raped and sacrificed". This is bloodier than the other poems here; many of Kennelly's creations have a chuckle hidden in them. (D-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Lisa Kucharski, **BLUE MOON DAY** ($3 from Making Waves, PO Box 226, Guildford, Surrey, GU3 1EW, UK): Kucharski writes with a sort of dreamlike view of the world, where the pieces don't quite fit together to make rational sense. Nonetheless she makes her points, as in "Over My Head", a sort of modern recombinant version of Chicken Little and the boy who cried Wolf. "Dark Song" is the sort of poem a kinder gentler John Bennett might write. (D-36)(MG)

★★★★★

Kym Landry, **THE HEROIN OF THIS STORY** ($2 from Drew Blood Press, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): This is poetry from the same culture that produced Gothic punks, dressed all in black, fascinated by death. Indeed, in one short fragment Kym casually says "We are on a Movement/Deathism shall be our ism". Dead friends, reading the obituaries, ODs, S/M and other cheery things populate these pages. (D-28r)

★★★★★

LILLIPUT REVIEW #8-9 ($1 from D. Wentworth, 4 Huddy Ave., Highlands, NJ 07732): A journal devoted to the art of the short poem; if it's over ten lines Don doesn';t want to see it. #8 is all erotic poetry, including works from Lyn Lifshin, Paul Weinman, John Bennett and Cheryl Townsend. #9 is a broadside by Tony Moffeit, 36 linked five-line poems, which seem to be fragments of thoughts reflecting back on a brief and tender love affair while simultaneously shifting in time to the poet driving away. (S-2)(MG)

★★★★★

Myron Lysenko, **COUGHING WITH CONFIDENCE** (A$8 from PO Box 64 Coburg, Victoria 3058, AUSTRALIA): Myron writes well, capturing bits and flakes of a suburban lifestyle in straightforward story poems. I like his style, and his choice of subject matter—getting too drunk at parties, the importance of music in life and, in a more serious section, The Bomb. Whimsical fun. (D-48t)(MG)

★★★★★

Peter Mantis, **SIGNALS OUT OF STYLE** ($1 from 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104): Longish poems from the editor of **BONESAUCE** with sort of a late night ruminatory feel to them. Mantis hops from love affairs to the strangeness of life to self-referential pieces on the whole process of writing poetry and trying to pin feelings down on paper. (D-10)(MG)

★★★★★

Marguerritte, **PULLED FROM THE JAWS OF A DOG** ($1 from Ken DiMaggio, 209 Avenue M Apt #1, Brooklyn, NY 11230): 5 short introspective poems that carry-on their search in a play of concrete everyday experiences and more abstract dream images. For me, the redeeming value was the language; though an entire poem might leave me baffled, there always seemed to be a line that would resonate: "even if I spend the rest of my life/walking empty fields/I will at least have/the wildflowers bending freely in the breeze." (HL-4)(pj)

★★★★★

Stephen-Paul Martin, **CORONA 2500** ($3 (?) from Score, Crag Hill, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): I like Martin's work, even if I don't understand it. This is another typographic poem, with letters being used to make words and also to make structures that march down the page (or jump out of it) surrounded by the words. The feel here is that the language is not static but dynamic, changing in a complex way as the reader, the symbols and the poet all interact. (S-24)(MG)

★★★★★

Al Masarik, **VAN GOGH'S CROWS** ($1.50 (?) from Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): Masarik seems to be having almost a crisis of confidence as he examines poets and poetry. Take this chunk from "after any rain": "we use words like freedom words like/adventure without seeing they are/prisons" (there's a neat double meaning in there too). But he perseveres, drawing simple pictures and occasionally pulling back to put them in context. (D-22)

★★★★★

Bernadette Mayer, SONNETS ($5 from Lee Ann Brown, #1e 130 Fort Washington Ave, NY, NY 10032): Complex works which take a traditional form and artfully manipulate it until it's almost unrecognizable. Each poem either evokes an immediate smile or leaves you in deep thought: "we were walking in the rush hour/Got pushed into a snow bank/By a man in a Bentley/&climbingoverit-IfellinlikeGreek&Latin." The occasional mention of "poetry" in a poem may turn-off some folks. (D-85)(pj)

a gift for you

me and my grave sister

W. cullerHart

★★★★★

Fabian McCarthy, Jr., **A NARROW ESCAPE FOR SIGMUND** ($2.50 from Keith Dodson, Guillotine Press, PO Box 2730, Long Beach, CA 90801): This chapbook also serves as the 8th issue of **GUTS** magazine. McCarthy writes gritty poems of a reasonably average life, centered around the sex act. On a few occasions he even comes up with an original erotic image. However, his continual condescending attitude towards women who are not stereotypical male fantasies is annoying and ultimately unpalatable. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Howard McCord, **AMERICAN FAMILY MOTTOES** ($1 from Tom Kryss, Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): As much found poetry as anything else, so it ends up here. McCord collected about one hundred "mottoes" for the Bicentennial—they look like they came from license plate holders or bathroom walls, though no provenance is given. Samples: "No Truth", "God Bless Lenny Bruce" and "Cheat Reality". mantras for the modern age under a textured gold cover. (M-10)(MG)

★★★★★

Howard McCord, **THE HONEY BEE AND THE MUSTANG** ($1 from Tom Kryss, Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): A short poem, or perhaps several short poems, set in the remaining open spaces of the West. McCord has subtitled this "Bill Yeats Out West, Nobodaddy Riding Shotgun In Search of the Winding Stair". Earth Firsters would probably go for some of this, particularly the elevation of coyotes over people. (M-6)(MG)

★★★★★

MINOTAUR #19 ($3 from PO Box 4039, Felton, CA 95018): A digest of comparatively staid poetry, poems in largely traditional forms that don't try to push the envelope of what's acceptable but instead concentrate on telling their stories. This issue includes enjoyable work from Bayla Winters and Paul Mariah, and a rather experimental screenplay from Geof Huth. (D-44r)(MG)

★★★★★

Charles Mitchell, **THE ROOM OF THE 500** ($3 from Minotaur Press, PO Box 4039, Felton, CA 95018): Mitchell's is a voice of the west, but in addition to a certain grizzliness and world-weariness things here are almost fantastic in spots. Buddhism creeps in (especially int he final depressing rumination on satori "The Night Watchman" as does the delight in life which remission can bring and a strange hunting accident in which people become elks (or is it vice versa?). He writes in long chewy lines, poems with plenty of body. (D-32r)(MG)

★★★★★

Al Mittal, **HANDS FULL OF EYES** ($4 from Slough Press, PO Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): Reading Mittal's poems is a bit like trying to grasp a handful of smoke; they dart elusively away, sketching out forms and ideas but refusing to hold for close examination. Untitled (for the most part) and uncapitalized, they tell of relationships and sour love, the joys and pains of being a poet, and the dangers of living too much in memory. An abstruse style that takes some getting used to. (D-28)(MG)

★★★★★

Yvonne Moonstorm, **MOON OVER THE MISSISSIPPI** ($1.50 (?) from Route 4 Box 361, Perryville, MO 63775): A collection of Yvonne's poetry with a cover by Randy Moore. Most of this stuff is about love and loss, with a few historical poems (like the one about her Dad's time in WWII) thrown in. Yvonne has a very withdrawn, reflective voice, and you have to listen pretty hard to hear her behind these poems. (HL-12)(MG)

★★★★★

D.W. Myatt, **TO FORGOTTEN GODS** (£1.5 from PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire, UK SY6 6ZZ): Pagan poems which pay homage to the earth and astral bodies. The author has an uncanny knack of outlining, in curt lines and stanzas, detailed images of people living in harmony with nature. In addition to mere description there is praise/worship in different forms: "But there are gods,/If one knows where to look/And can tread the steep slopes/Of this hill." A keen interest in the subject matter would seem a must. (S-16)(pj)

★★★★★

F. A. Nettlebeck, **ALBERT AYLER DISAPPEARED** ($3 from Inkblot, 439 49th St #11, Oakland, CA 94609): A chapbook of short poems, of which many are visual, of which many are complex. These require numerous readings, and even then you must resign yourself to the fact that precise meaning is rarely the intent. Occasionally, however, the message is unmistakably clear, such as in "Or What": "My asshole is/bigger than/most of your/brains." (D-40)(pj)

★★★★★

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL Vol. 13 #6 ($3 from 20 Werneth Ave., Gee Cross, Hyde SK14 5NL, UK): We don't see much from England, so I don't know if the traditional look of most of these poems is typical of British poetry or of editor Gerald England's taste. In any case there's more craft and less playfulness here than in some of the American zines, with solid work from people like Stewart Pickford and Glenda Wintein (the latter's work, a flowing ameoboid poem about an amoeba, is perhaps the most playful thing here). An enjoyable change of pace. (A5-32)

★★★★★

Kurt Nimmo, **THE SMASHED RAT EXERCISE PLAN** ($1.50 (?) from Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): I try to put a market value on these Black Rabbit chapbooks based on the handwork and heavy screened covers, but editor Tom Kryss is happy to trade or barter. This is a single longish poem by Kurt, a walk through an Arab neighborhood that uncovers a lot of intolerance cutting both ways. (M-12)(MG)

★★★★★

Orion, **KID SHMUCK** ($1 from Ken DiMaggio, 209 Avenue M Apt #1, Brooklyn, NY 11230): A plotless story or better yet a character sketch of an antisocial person referred to as Kid Shmuck. The author met the Kid and kinda looked up to him as a guru. The writing strains a little too hard to be eloquent: "The amorphity of his elusiveness knows no bounds, but yet is shackled and fettered as though it is being watched guardedly for being the most dangerous bondage slave in the black market trade." If this is a parody, I'm lost. (HL-6)(pj)

★★★★★

Shane Paul, **MUTILATIONS** ($1 (?) from PO Box 14450, Phoenix, AZ 85063): A chapbook of 25 short poems, also available thru Lainie's Oyster Publications. The author expends the most effort on interpersonal topics. Generally, these works are ankle-deep and lifeless. But there's some sparks in unpredictable places: "Pelvic thrusts/Are like 'Fish' saying/'Jesus, Jesus save me from/These breast fed babies (sic)." Well, it's a little spark. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

THE PLASTIC TOWER #1 ($2.50 from PO Box 702, Bowie, MD20715): The premier issue of a quarterly poetry journal. Established and unpublished poets are welcome, with no limitations on style as long it's quality work. The poems struck me as mechanically sound but ultimately unexciting, despite a few works from well-published poets. The graphics were even more plain. (D-32 (pj)

★★★★★

POETRY MOTEL #15 ($5 from Suburban Wilderness Press, 1619 Jefferson, Duluth, MN 55812): The **MOTEL** is back, and editor Pat McKinnon has put together a fine bunch of edgy guests for the return issue. Miles David Moore pays tribute to another gutsy poet with "Todd Moore Sd", while McKinnon himself rants about a world in which you can't recite poetry and smoker reefer but it's alright to get drunk and watch slasher movies. There';s some short stories too, of which Willie Smith's "Witness" is the most gonzo. (HL-48)(MG)

★★★★★

POETRY? NOTICE #1 (2 stamps from Matthew Butler, PO Box 935, Fairview, NC 28730-0935): A somewhat hermetic journal of poetry, put together by pasting up a variety of handwritten and typed originals that seem for the most part to be trying to desperately get feelings out from behind their shell of anonymity. The poets here tend to be introspective and even downbeat. Looking for more work. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

THE POETRY PROJECT #134-135 (At least $20/yr contribution from The Poetry Project, St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery, 2nd Ave & 10th St, NY, NY 10003): The quarterly newsletter of a relatively well-funded organization promoting poetry from the bowels of Manhattan. Despite the "establishment" ring, there is some fine art here, and loads of information. These people seem to be organizing lectures and readings. Suggested for those in NYC area. (S-32)(pj)

★★★★★

POKED WITH STICKS III ($2 from Stephen E. Toth, 3147 Douglas Rd., Toledo, OH 43606): A mini of edgy poetry with lots of sex and a bit of death. The writers here don't intellectualize or gush, they just examine and describe, and try to get out the fact that poetry doesn't have to be highfdalutin' to be worth reading. Mostly the succeed. This issue includes interesting work from Lynne Walker, Joel Lipman and non-White Boy poems from Paul Weinman. (M-40r)(MG)

★★★★★

REFLEKTION #5 ($1 (?) from Kera, 7824 Pebblebrook Circle, Hanover Park, IL 60103): Poetry journal containing novice work. Some startling graphics, such as "Portrait of K.X." by Ilme. However, the photocopies of the photographs didn't cut it. A place for young beginners. (D-24)(pj)

★★★★★

SCRATCH ONE (£1.25 from Mark Robinson, 24 Nelson Street, The Groves, York, YO3 7NJ, UK): Mark is aiming to make this be something other than just another safe poetry magazine, urging his writers to go beyond, whether in form (as with "Half-Life: Dungeness" by Derek Humphries) or in content (for example, Virgil Mihaiu's "Extenuating Circumstances". This first issue has quite a good range of work and bodes well for the future. Mark also wants to hear from marginalized poets from the U.S. (A5-40)(MG)

★★★★★

SEPARATE THE SEA FROM YOUR LAUGHTER ($1 from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #4, Memphis, TN 38104): A collection of "Eye-poems" by Peter. These are collages of mass media images, headline, clippings and the occasional original typed line, with highlights in various color markers. The twentieth century as run through a food processor. (D-12)(MG)

★★★★★

A. Smith, **HOW TO KILL A COP** ($2.50 from Andrew Smith c/o Swain, PO Box 976, Adelphi, MD 20783): This mini-chapbook fairly pulsates with rage, although the author's complaints are not 100% clear. It is however clear that he doesn't think much of modern society, with gentrification and neighborhood breakdown and education that consists mostly of teaching kids to sit still and shut up. (M-30t)(MG)

★★★★★

Stacey Sollfrey, **TURNING SIGHTS IN A CIRCULAR DRIVEWAY** ($3 from Runaway Spoon Press, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): Stacey writes poetry very much in the feel of her title, with words and concepts tripping over one another, running together, and melding into kaleidoscope views of the world. They start with everyday objects but end up as fantastic images, showing off a poetic imagination that sees the world as it isn;t and probably never could be. Comes with an introduction by John Bennett. (M-32t)(MG)

★★★★★

STAR*LINE ($1 from 2012 Pyle Rd., Schenectady, NY 12303): The newsletter of the Science Fiction Poetry Association. Perhaps half the content is poems. The rest is made up of debates over the shape of the genre, market news, announcements of prizewinners, letters, and pleas from the editor for more participation. Still, the poems here are good ones, and the editing is done with care. (D-18t)(MG)

★★★★★

Russ Stedman, **THE PROGRESSION OF DEPRESSION** ($2.50 from 311 1/2 N. Main #301, Mitchell, S.D. 57301): Each poem apparently gets its title from the date it was written, the first being

"Jan 20, 1987" and the last "Nov 19, 1987." These are a choppy chronicle of a love gone sour. Much of this is trite, stumbling rhyme. No new perspective or angle is found on this rich topic. Hopefully the catharsis was beneficial for the author. (S-22)(pj)

★★★★★

Lamont B. Steptoe, **CRIMSON RIVER** ($2 (?) from PO Box 109, Camden, NJ 08101): A reprint of a previously published chapbook with new and selected works by the author. Years of racial discrimination against Blacks inspire Steptoe in creative ways. This opens with a poetic message to his nephew: after the 1st time he is called "Nigger" he will see life so clearly in an instant that only when he sees God will his vision ever be so good again. Later, in a tribute to Jesse Owens: "They say, you died, but naw/you just movin' so fast they can't see you no more...!" Don't expect to be impressed by any fancy layout or glossy cover, just expect a few accurate blows to the heart. (O-18)(pj)

★★★★★

Belinda Subraman & Lyn Lifshin, **THE JESUIT POEMS** ($2 from Cheryl Townsend, 4975 Comanche Trail, Stow, OH 44224): The themes and styles of both authors in this chapbook are similar. Almost every poem returns to this image of a horny priest who's preoccupied with women and their body hair. Presented in free verse, these poems deliver at a political level, but their repetitive nature ultimately detracts from the erotic impact. (D-23)(pj)

★★★★★

Suzanne, **IT'S NOT NOAH'S ARK YOU KNOW, YOU CAN COME ALONE** ($1 from Dancing Fish Press, 2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, ONT, M6R 2M8, CANADA): Simple, unpretentious poetry that cuts close to the bone. Suzanne writes about loneliness, about the troubles of being female in a male scene, about bits of encounters with people in the world. A still but strong voice. (D-32t)(MG)

★★★★★

SWAMP ROOT Vol 1 #4 ($5 from Route 2, Box 1098, Hiwassee One, Jacksboro, TN 37757): Really impressive poetry journal with photos, collages, letters, and reviews. Mary Hanford's poetry was featured in this issue; the topics focused loosely on African peoples and places. Louis McKee's critical analysis of Lifshin's contribution to poetry called "Madonna All Over the Place" was insightful and enjoyable reading. (d-85)(pj)

★★★★★

Chuck Taylor, **SONG OF RISING CONSCIOUSNESS POEM OF ANIMAL RIGHTS** ($2 (?) from Slough Press, PO Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): Chuck reflects on his own history working in the dog lab of a major hospital as janitor and general helper, and tries to connect this forward with the animal rights movement. He does see a rise of consciousness, an increased hope that we can learn to live in harmony with other creatures. The message is certainly not prettified, and his tale is both hopeful and horrifying. (HS-24)(MG)

★★★★★

Kent Taylor, **LATE NIGHT SHOW AT THE STARLIGHT LAUNDRY** ($1.50 from Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): Quiet, halting poems that seem like they best fit late at night near the center of a small city. "some ghosts/I buried/to survive/have become necessities", reflects the poet, learning that the past is worth keeping even when it wasn;t worth living. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

TRAMP #7 ($3 from Alan Howard, PO Box 1386, Columbia, SC 29202-1386): A zine that consistently publishes some of the best poets working this scene today, and also new voices that should join them—for example, Steve Sibra, with an outraged poem in this issue, is new to me but I hope to see more of his work. Bigger names include Judson Crews, Bill Shields (with more of his shuddery Namvet poetry) and opener Gerald Locklin. (D-28)(MG)

★★★★★

James H. Trott, **THE BIG LIGHTS** ($4 from New Hope International, 23 Gambrell Bank Road, Gee Cross, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 5NL, UK): Trott is a Montana poet, and perhaps it is only in a place like Montana that the variety of light in the sky could command so much attention, without competition from other things. He write of starlight and sunlight's changing moods, of rainbows and auroras, in no hurry to get out of one poem and into the next. Rather, Trott reflects on what the world looks like to him, underneath the big lights. (A5-28)(MG)

★★★★★

Jason Underground, **I DON'T MIND RUINING SOMEBODY'S DAY IF IT CHANGES THE REST OF THEIR LIFE** ($2 (?) from 2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): Many of the poems here were inspired by a trip Jason took to Eastern Europe, and were written there. The main theme seems to be an attempt to reconcile a world with problems to a faith in a good God. Very introspective, moody stuff with a core of inner strength. (D-32)(MG)

★★★★★

Jason Underground, **IF I WERE A GIRL I WOULDN'T ALLOW MYSELF TO LOOK LIKE ONE, SO YOU REALLY HAVE NO IDEA, DO YOU?** ($2 (?) from 2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): Mostly love poems by Jason, about being in high school and growing up and having a special person to turn to. The anti-abortion poem here will turn some folks off, but I found his works well worth reading. Shows a lot of promise for future work. (D-24)(MG)

★★★★★

Nico Vassilakis, **BUS** ($2.50 from Robert Drake, Burning Press, PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): A minizine of poetry that seems to lack boundaries; the thoughts fly along and off the page so fast it seems as if the words will follow. Vassilakis doesn't bludgeon the reader into thinking one particular way, but uses language to open up possibilities. "there must grow a fruit/that I can eat/to tell the future in one bite" runs one passage. (M-24t)(MG)

★★★★★

Carla Vogel, **UNREQUITED** (50¢ *CASH/stamps* from D. Craig, 2157 Seaman Ct., Herndon, VA 22070): A selection of love poems and erotica that tend to focus on one particular detail to the point of near-obsession—sort of the way real love seems to work sometimes. Pretty teeth, a CB handle, black stockings; all of these are the bits from which a dream is constructed. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

Fred Voss, **SURVIVOR** ($3 from Keith A. Dodson, Guillotine press, PO Box 2730, Long Beach, CA 90801): Great working-class poetry from a guy who's provoked a lot of other favorable comments. Voss starts this chapbook (a special issue of **GUTS** magazine) with poems of recreation—getting drunk, shooting pool, playing softball with the guys. Then he slides into the machine shop, punching holes in the veneer of professional responsibility that hides exploitation, dopey foremen, and slacking off. Get it, read it, you'll enjoy it. (D-28)(MG)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **SOLID STEEL SHELL** ($.50 from 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): One long poem with an unsettling pencil sketch on the last page. The theme is similar to "The Wall" in that the author points out how people, including himself, hide behind artificial barriers. Although the idea seems fruitful, I didn't care much for the writing: "i ran round in swift circles/inside my steel shell/eyes locked in/almost saw...." No energy. (M-15)(pj)

★★★★★

William Wantling, **NORMAL'S SUN** ($2 from Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): Gut-hitting poems from a poet who's been through Vietnam and drugs and San Quentin and still maintained the ability to look at the world and rage about injustice. There are some quick sketches of prison violence here, some lighter moments on the outside, and what could be the definitive explanation of why prison poems are important rather than exploitation. (D-16)(MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **BANANA STRANGLES VICTIM** ($1 from 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): Postnuclear erotic poetry, one of the closest matings of sex and death I've seen lately. The biological urge continues, at least in the males, long after the world has turned to slok. Paul succeeds in making this an even more jittery experience by headline collages and a layout that forces constant turning of the book. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **TASTEBUDS IN BED** ($1 from 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): A selection of poetry from Paul thrown helter-skelter on to the page amidst collaged titles and illustrations. This is sexy, even erotic stuff, with a sort of breathless pulse and rhythm that's faster than his usual, more sardonic voice. The images are strange and mutant, however, so it's not just another book of slippery friction. (D-20)(MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **WE BROKE THEIR HANDS AWAY** ($1.50 from Seth Tisue, PO Box 1083, Wheaton, IL 60189): Strange packed poems, much denser than Weinman's usual skeletal style. These poems are almost alchemical in their density, combining human action and nature and food and technology into a sort of mosaic where the whole means more than the sum of the parts. The final effect is one of sleepwalking, alienated humans in a world they neither understand nor control. (D-20t)(MG)

★★★★★

Paul Weinman, **WHITE BOY 6 PK** (SASE (?) from 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): Six White Boy poems on a sheet of paper cut to fold into a box with the proportions of a six-pack of beer. Naturally the poems deal with drinking, mostly with White Boy's attempts to match up what he's seen in beer commercials with what actually goes on. (S-1r)(MG)

★★★★★

Sigmund Weiss, **LOVE POEMS TO DORA** ($1 from 11 Lancaster Place, Stony Brook, NY 11790): A chapbook of love poems from husband to wife, printed by the author's daughter to celebrate his 85th birthday. The voice in these poems is one of blind, unending devotion; one that searches for words/images that no doubt must always fall short of the emotion: "Dora, Dora, come to me./Touch me though ghost you be/within that ether far from me." (D-22)(pj)

★★★★★

Richard Wilmarth, **EN LA HABANA VIEJA** ($1 from 2553 Kingstown Rd., Kingston, RI 02881): A set of poems, all with the same title as the chapbook itself, set in post-revolutionary Cuba. While there are a few that are wistful love poems, the majority look at the people and their lives, with the poet trying to decide if it was worth it. The answer, as with so many others, seems to depend on one's place in society. (D-10)(MG)

★★★★★

W.E. Wyatt, **POEMS OF W.E. WYATT** ($1 from Tom Kryss, Black Rabbit Press, 4115 E. 81, Cleveland, OH 44105): As with the other Black Rabbit chaps, this features mimeographed leaves stapled inside a harder covver with artowrk on it. Wyatt writes in a sort of drunken semi-Buddhist young man's mode, trying to understand the world but not trying too hard lest he lose sight of the fun he's having. American haiku. (D-8)(MG)

★★★★★

YOUR ELBOW #1 ($2 (?) from Kim Koch, 2205 California St., Suite 204, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418): A journal of poetry, including some translated poems and some graphics. The sharp layout deserves mention; likewise, the graphics all had this "shock" quality to them, their dot-matrix effect notwithstanding. No real pattern to the poetry, but here's some lines from "Misperception" by E. Schlaeger as a sampling: "A generator fan/sliced through my abdomen,/or was that a horsefly with an axe/in the midday sun?" (S-40t)(pj)

★★★★★

YOUR ELBOW #2 ($2 (?) from 2205 California St. NE #204, Minneapolis, MN 55418): Electric-technic modern poetry with a charge like sticking your finger in a light socket and a flashy desktop published layout to match. Check out Paul Bernhardt's "The Artiste" which tackles the meaninglessness of literature in modern life, or A. Razor's phallic-shaped "Patriotic", leaping for the jugular of the American dream. Lots of cool photos and graphics too. (S-42t)(MG)

★★★★★

POETRY NOTES

•**CHIRON REVIEW** (Rt. 2 Box 111, St. John, KS 67576) has announced their 1990 poetry contest. Top prize $100, entry fee $4 per poet up to 6 poems, SASE for details.

•**McOne Press** (PO Box 50174, Austin, TX 78763) is looking for submissions for various chapbooks, and "caffiene stimulated" work for the next issue of CITY RANT.

•**The St. Clark's Anti-Poetry Project** (Gail Schilke, 163 Ludlow St. #2C, New York, NY 10002) is a way for prison poets to be heard. They link incarcerated poets up with freeworld poets, so that words and ideas can be exchanged and ultimately the works will be read. Video and magazine records are planned for the future.

•**WYRD** (David, 91 Cliveden Avenue, Perry Barr, Birmingham, B42 1SW, UK): This is a new magazine looking for "carefully crafted poetry", with an April 20 deadline for their debut issue. Send up to 3 poems with a few sentences about yourself and an SASE for reply.

BANDS MANIAC PENPAL CLUB!
BANDS MANIAC PENPAL CLUB!
BANDS MANIAC PENPAL CLUB!

MEET OTHER PEOPLE THROUGH THE MAIL

EXCHANGE: INFO, PHOTOS, TOUR DATES, RECORDS, BOOKS, MAGS, WHATEVER!

ONLY $2 TO BE INCLUDED AND TO RECEIVE TWO ISSUES

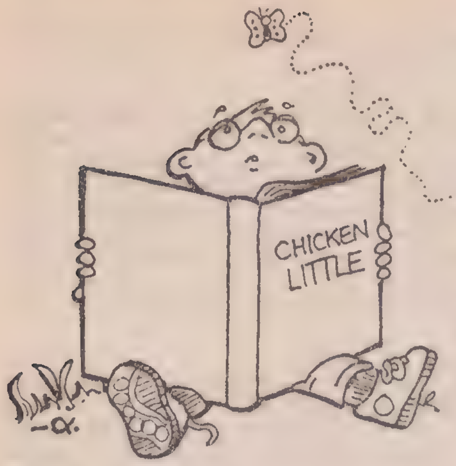
SEND EVERYTHING TO:

Bob Moore
PO Box 11975
Phila., Pa. 19145

IF YOU SEND CHECKS PLEASE MAKE THEM OUT TO BOB MOORE

We Print Zines!
And Tabloids and Newsletters and Booklets and...
WORLD PRINTING
(518) 459-8455
1104 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12205

MAKE WINE MASTERFULLY
FOR PENNIES PER BOTTLE
IN YOUR OWN HOME
WITHOUT EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT
OR TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE
SEND $2.00 PLUS SASE TO:
SUNSHINE PUBLICATIONS
P. O. BOX 830
OOLTEWAH, TN 37363



PAMPHLETS, LEAFLETS, BOOKLETS, AND OTHER ONE-SHOTS

(perfect bound items are generally listed in the BOOKS section)

!WAS ($1 (?) from Jannathan Falling Long, 4311 Coxey Brown Rd., Myersville, MD 21773): A confusing collection of xerographic art and collage, full of images from modern culture—technology, security, sex, play, food, they're all here. The result is a barrage of images, all the media you normally absorb in a day compressed into just a few pages. Profoundly disorienting. (D-32)

* * *

Kurt Beaulieu, **WHY THE ART STRIKE WON'T WORK! (FORTUUNATELY)** (Trade from 4230 Pierre-de-Coubertin #5, Montreal, QC, H1V 1V4, CANADA): A pamphlet in cartoon form poking fun at the Art Strike. Kurt explains that galleries will just find other people to be artists, and artists will just have to find other things to do, so the most to hope for is one elite being replaced by another. (S-2)

* * *

Clif Bennett, **ABDUCTION OF THE QUEEN** ($3 from RR2, Hawkestone, ONT, L0L 1T0, CANADA): An essay subtitled "Notes on the suppression of the old religion". Bennett actually ranges a good deal wider than that title would suggest, from chess to the troubadors to the rise of self-flagellation in monasteries to population explosions in medieval society. More of a tour through the material than a sharply-directed journey, this essay helps bring about a holistic appreciation of the major changes sponsored by the Catholic Church which are only recently coming to light. (S-20t)

* * *

Joel Biroco, **YIP-I-ADDY-I-AY!** (Herculaneum Press, BM Utopia, London, WC1N 3XX, UK): Herculaneum is Joel's own letterpress imprint, and this book is a work of art: handset type, fine paper, a linocut bound in, marbled jacket, hand binding. It's a limited edition essay about dreams and ideals and how they get washed out of us, and would probably be most available in trade for other hand press items. (D-8t)

* * *

Charles L. Black, Jr., **LET US RETHINK OUR "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH ISRAEL** ($2.50 from JCOME, PO Box 18367, Washington, DC 20036): JCOME stands for Jewish Committee On The Middle East, and Black is an emeritus Professor of Law at Yale. His argument here is simple—that we would be appalled at any other nation that was gunning down demonstrators as fast as Israel is in opposing the Intifada, and that the US has no business propping up a regime prepared to shed blood this wantonly. I must agree with him; but then, I'm an anarchist, and don't really want to see *any* governments propped up. (D-22t)

* * *

Stephen Daniel Callahan, **ELEMENTS** ($2 from 28 Lefurgy Ave., Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706): A collection of aphorisms and ruminations, 105 of them in all. For example, there's number XLII: "One must often do questionable acts to get indubitable results". There's some wisdom in this hand-sewn chapbook, and some that just don't touch me at all. (D-24)

* * *

CITY OF LIES ($1 from Maga, PO Box 6704, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1X5, CANADA): Another enigmatic little pamphlet from these folks, slapped between nice artistic screened covers. Contents include news on a rash of sewer deaths in Dallas, comments on the foibles of various cities (Canadian and US), and comics. They also pick on the larger media for doing their share of lying. (D-20t)

* * *

Kerr Cuhulain, **LAW ENFORCEMENT GUIDE TO WICCA** ($10 from CultWatch Response, PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901): Written by a practicing Wiccan who is also a policeman, this one is intended to help law enforcement professionals sort fact from fiction in the current climate of confusion between the occult and paganism. Cuhulain provides an explanation of basic pagan beliefs, differentiates Wicca from Satanism, and tries to calm down an explosive situation. Includes a glossary and extensive bibliography. (S-33t)

* * *

Denise Dee, **CERTAIN COMFORT** ($1 *CASH* from 29A Guy Pl., San Francisco, CA 94105): More stories and glimpses of Denise's life. In this slim booklet she writes of the help friends are in recovering from shock and the dimensions of being wanted, from her mother's cabbage soup to just being with someone and feeling that things are right. Somehow her simple words seem to capture feelings better than those of most anyone else. (D-8)

* * *

Tim Donovan, **A NEW THEORY OF DINOSAUR EXTINCTION** ($3 from 7 Ashland St., Manchester, CT 06040-35011): Tim's proposal is basically that an arms race in which defense was too expensive doomed the dinosaurs, as the Tyrannosaurs wiped out their prey and then starved themselves. To his credit, he does not draw modern moral analogies from this. Rather, he sets out some possible objections to his theory and answers them. I find the argument at least plausible, but then, I'm no paleontologist.

* * *

DRAWINGS ($3 *CASH/MO* from A.C. Samish, 2118 Guadalupe #191, Austin, TX 78705): Samish draws scantily-clad women in leather and PVC, deranged men, and lots of railroads and unfathomable machines. Here these things combine into an incoherent storyline, with lightning changes of direction on each new page and no very satisfactory ending. Bizarre and different form anything else. (L-20)

* * *

Lloyd Dunn, **INBETWEENING** ($3 from Runaway Spoon Press, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): Excerpts from an animated xerographic film, now captured as a chapbook. This is the title sequence, in which the name of the work is presented one letter at a time. The trick is that it's all the same letter, metamorphizing from "I" to "N" to "B" and so on. Along the way graphic elements twist and turn and burst, go from two dimensions to three and back again, and otherwise refuse to be well-behaved. (M-56)

* * *

Greg Evason, **NOTES FROM THE RED BOOK** ($2 (?) from 90 Carden St. #115, Guelph, ONT, N1H 3A3, CANADA): Subtitled "a job in progress", this one is 211 numbered thoughts, somewhere between aphorisms and reminders from a daybook. Check out #96 "A novel is a large page" or #148 "Writing is a function & not an activity". Don't get the wrong impression, it's not all about writing: #113 "The skate, a cold nest of nests with packets of tea broken in the light. She makes wheat breathe." (D-32)

* * *

THE EXPANDABLE CONGRESS IS A JOKE BOOK ($3 *CASH/Postal MO* for 10 copies from James Hazel, PO Box 1445, Hillsboro, OR 97123): This is a project of the "Silent Revolt - Reelect Nobody" campaign. It's sort of like a collection of ethnic jokes, but with the Congress as the butt of them all. For example: "Q. What happens when a congressman stops lying? A. He's voted out of office!" (M-8t)

* * *

FESTIVAL OF PLAGIARISM ($3 from Stephen Perkins, c/o Plagiarist Press, 1031 York St., San Francisco, CA 94110): Actually, the title should probably be plural, as this contains accounts of several Plagiarist festivals in 1988 and 1989. It's a mix of theory, plagiarized art, history, and bibliography, with the latter being especially nice to see. Xerox art rubs up against reasons why it is good (or, in some cases, bad—they print critiques of the concept as well). (HS-40t)

* * *

M. Jamison, **NOSESPRAY GAMES** (SASE from Margaret Jamison Pamphlets, 304 E. 16th, Houston, TX 77008): A minizine that starts off with a young lady complaining about her brother stuffing her M&Ms up his nose and goes on from there. It's pretty rambling, reminding me of Al Ackerman's writing, though perhaps just a touch less horrifying. (M-8)

* * *

THE JURY HANDBOOK ($1 *CASH/Postal MO* from James Hazel, PO Box 1445, Hillsboro, OR 97123): The purpose of this booklet is quite simple: to instruct prospective jurors in the theory of jury nullification, the idea that both the facts and the law are open to the jury's interpretation. In the past, this has been a powerful avenue for fighting unjust laws, and while a lot of modern jurists view it with suspicion, as far as I know the avenue of opportunity is still there. A civics lesson for the resistance-minded, well-written with the minimum necessary of legal citations. (M-39t)

* * *

Allen Koszowski, **MIDNIGHT BRUSHSTROKES** ($10 from Nocturnal Publications, 1591 Taylor St. #4, St. Paul, MN 55104): A portfolio of ten high-quality prints from this prolific illustrator of horror stories. Koszowski presents both traditional material (the stake through the heart) and new wave gore (the brain bursting out of the head) in his dark and excellent work. (D-10)

* * *

Vince Lisella, **PROPAGANDA IN HELL** (22¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, 225 State St/. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305): In rubber-stamping, strange computer fonts, and some hand alteration, this tells the story of a hellish graffiti artist attacking God's edicts. Lisella identifies this as a "Cautionary Pamphlet of the Chemung County Geodesic Society for the Preservation & Proliferation of Mark Twain", a title rather longer than the colorful work itself. (M-4)

* * *

Roy Lisker, **LISTEN...** ($3 from 152 Kisor Rd., Highland, NY 12528): The subtitle here is "3 Composers in Historical Perspective: Bach, Handel & Mozart." In separate essays Lisker sets each of these three into the context of the political scene of their times, considering the external influences on their music and its acceptance. It's an approach that makes sense to me, and although I'm not qualified to evaluate his arguments, he writes well and makes his points with plenty of evidence. (D-40r)

* * *

Scott MacLeod, **CRIMES OF PASSION** ($2 from 2261 Market St. #307, San Francisco, CA 94114-1693): A collage of pictures and clippings that get into the sordid side of love—or, perhaps more precisely, the aftermath of love breaking up. Much of this stuff is downright nasty, with bodies in beds and blood smeared around, but done in a stark style that really isn't too graphic. (D-16)

* * *

Scott MacLeod, **THE DRUNKEN JUNGLE** ($2 from 2261 Market St. #307, San Francisco, CA 94114-1693): A script in three voices which has been presented as a live performance and a radio reading. It's an exploration of the relations between a jungle missionary, his wife, and a European doctor, which seems to devolve into delirium on several parts. Isolated in the microcosm the effects of macrocosmic society slowly dissolve. (D-12r)

* * *

Scott MacLeod, **THE HORRORS OF LOVE** ($2 from 2261 Market St. #307, San Francisco, CA 94114-1693): Scott here adopts a method of writing that has been used by various language poets: he takes a book (which one I cannot tell) and obliterates all but a few words on each page. Thus the reader is presented with an incomplete skeleton of the work, which obviously involves a cynical attitude towards a love affair. But trying to deduce what lies on the original page below the darkness is pretty well impossible. (D-32)

* * *

Scott MacLeod, **PENETRATING DEEPLY TO REPLENISH** ($2 from 2261 Market St. #307, San Francisco, CA 94114-1693): This is a pretty bleak view of the world, in pictures and words lifted from a variety of sources. There's a variety of gory deaths, children being perverted by an authoritarian society, and the hopelessness of human relationships. I read it as a collage of the bad effects of social control, but I may be reading that into it based on my own prejudices. (D-36)

* * *

Lee Markosian, **DEAR DIARY** ($2 from 415 Capp St., San Francisco, CA 94110): These diary excerpts cover a period in September and October 1987 when Lee was trekking in the Himalayas—more specifically, circumnavigating Annapurna. It's a fairly interesting journal, replete not with big thoughts about the grandeur of the world (though there is some of that) but with little ones about passing the time, surviving at high altitudes, and bowel movements (a major concern). I don't expect to ever go to the Himalayas myself, and I found this vicarious experience to be quite sufficient. (D-68t)

* * *

Stephen-Paul Martin, **ADVANCINGreceding** ($3 from Runaway Spoon Press, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949): Is it art or is it text? Both, I suppose, and a paper movie as well. There are two texts here: a loop of "ADVANCING INTO THE SPACE IT MAKES BY ADVANCING..." and one of "receding into the space it makes by receding". These texts, along with lines and bars composed of type symbols, wipe across the page in a series of dissolves from upper left to lower right, in an eternal cycle. Fun to play with and puzzle over. (M-25)

* * *

Thom Metzger, **DO THE DO** (50¢ from PO Box 25193, Rochester, NY 14625): "A prophesy revealed to: Thom Metzger", this one starts with Biblical verses from Genesis and Revelations and expands on them in a sort of bebop style. Thom ties together images of the Earth Mother with worship by Onan, the rage of the whore of Babylon, and who knows what else. Pretty obscure. (M-8t)

* * *

Rowan Moonstone, **THE ORIGINS OF HALLOWEEN** ($1 from CultWatch Response, PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1842): This is a response to all the Christian and other fanatics who believe that Halloween is some sort of Wiccan blood sacrifice holiday. Moonstone has gone back to sources more reputable than the World Book in an attempt to sort out the actual Celtic practice, and reports here on what she learned—with references. (D-8r)

* * *

Janos Nehek, **THE INFINITE EGRESS OF YOU & BECOME AN URBAN SHAMAN!** ($1.50 for both from Box 1348, 41 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94104): Two attempts at a critique of New Age thinking, one rather dense and serious, the second lighthearted. The first, recently reprinted in **ANARCHY**, pulls together a lot of sources to dump on the New Agers for being foolishly optimistic; the second ribs the faddishness for ancient ways in modern industrial society. A list of references for further reading is also thrown in. (D-12t & S-2t)

* * *

NOT GUILTY ($1 (?) from 5 Star Press, PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065): The latest summary of the case of Michael J. Stotts, who is currently serving prison time for escape and extortion. He claims he was framed by the Feds out of vindictiveness for previous incidents, and is appealing the conviction and looking for public support. Dates of news stories and the case number for the trial are given, so that readers can follow up and make their own decisions. (D-20t)

* * *

John Ohliger, **THE ECOLOGY OF EDUCATION** ($5 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): This is a one-page essay with 34 pages of notes and annotations—Ohliger hands out big chunks of works he's found useful in molding his own thoughts, resulting in a romp through his bookcase. The essay itself looks at the current furor over education reform, concluding (1) Such reform is no panacea; (2) Adult and continuing education must be considered as part of the educational ecosystem; and (3) a return to human scale is long overdue. (S-35)

* * *

John Ohliger, **THE MILLENNIUM SURVIVAL KIT** ($10 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): An essay by John on the millenial frenzy that's already building up, and what adult educators can do to perhaps defuse some of the worst aspects of it. As with all his work, the endnotes are the meatiest part, with plenty of thoughts on time, our relationship to it, and what we can do to make this relationship more sensible. I must confess that even I'm feeling twinges of millennial fervor these days; this spiral-bound book is a good antidote. (S-60)

★★★★★

John Ohliger, **RADICAL IDEAS IN ADULT EDUCATION** ($5 from Basic Choices, 730 W. Jefferson #1, Springfield, IL 62702): An annotated bibliography of people who have been trying to get to the roots of adult ed, and calling for change to make a better society. John organizes this well, and the list of references here would suffice to launch a whole new field of study for anyone interested. For $15, you can follow this up with a 195-page syllabus organizing these ideas further. (S-42)

★★★★★

PAGAN RESOURCES BOOK ($7.85 from Victor Brotte, Pagan Free Press, PO Box 55223, Tulsa, OK 74155): A collection of resources for the pagan in the United States. It starts out with a lengthy listing of newsletters and other publications. There are sections on schools, items of interest available through the mail, and stores and shops. There's also a personal networking section in the back. (S-40)

★★★★★

Phil Paine, **ANOTHER WALL BITES THE DUST** ($4 from D.S. Black, 537 Jones St. #9156, San Francisco, CA 94102): Paine examines the world situation in the light of the Berlin Wall tumbling down, and he's not utterly pleased by what he sees. To some, this will come as a sort of "The Emperor Has No Clothes" booklet; we already know that the leaders in Russia, the US, and Nicaragua are thugs, that traditional conservatives and traditional liberals have little interest in freedom. But Paine has a great writing style, and his slightly cranky rant brings out the true face of government well. Apart from his somewhat mystical belief in natural rights and democracy, I find a lot to agree with here. (D-34t)

★★★★★

Charles Platt, **CHRISTMAS CAROLS FOR ATHEISTS** ($1/2 copies from 9 Patchin Pl., New York, NY 10011): Charles doesn't think much of Christianity, or of Christmas. These carols are rewritten to emphasize things like "Christ the Fraud" or the exploitative nature of Bad King Wenceslas. Most people would probably be shocked at their blasphemy. (D-8t)

★★★★★

PRINCIPIA DISCORDIA ($5 *Postal MO ONLY* from Trevor, PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061): A new reprint edition of this classic of Discordian propaganda, containing everything from the original. This is the mystical text we Discordians are always referring to to perplex our enemies and reaffirm our faith in the primal disorder. If you haven't opened your mind to a new idea lately, you need to read this—and this edition, with a fine photo of Emperor Norton on the front, comes at a bargain price. (D-80)

★★★★★

REPORT ON HOW ALTERNATE I.D. IS OBTAINED ($10 *CASHIMO* from harold, 1425 W. Southern #10-2-13, Tempe, AZ 85282): A short report on two ways to change your name and get identification in the new name. One is the old scam of using the name of someone who died young. The other is a means for using multiple legal name changes to lose a troublesome past. (S-6)

★★★★★

RESPECTING THE FLAG ($2.50 from Veterans Information Project, PO Box 662, Hillsborough, NH 03244): A collection of thoughts from members of Chapter #41 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. Unable to agree on a Chapter position on the Supreme Court decision on flagburning, they opened up a tape recorder and let all members have their say. There's more folks here who would shoot flag burners than defend them, and some worthwhile words on patriotism, but the diversity is interesting too. Includes a copy of the Bill of Rights and the Flag Code. (D-31t)

★★★★★

Randy Russell, **WORLD WITHOUT PEOPLE** (50¢ from 1320 W. 116th St. #9, Cleveland, OH 44102): A series of small sketched or vignettes, each describing a particular scene which, depite all the hallmarks of human activity, has no people in it. Randy prefaces this with an introduction about the neutron bomb, but it reads more like a writing class exercise than anything else. (M-16)

★★★★★

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO JOIN THE NATION-WIDE SILENT REVOLT!

SILENT REVOLT is a fast-growing invisible army of Fed-up Americans who are dedicated to keeping the fruits of their labor, and restoring prosperity, true justice and individual liberty for all!

SILENT REVOLT

RE-ELECT NOBODY

COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!

REALISTIC!

EXCITING!

EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE!

SO SIMPLE YOUR KIDS WILL HAVE FUN HELPING!

There are no dues — no memberships — and no general organization! THE SILENT REVOLT is just a multitude of dedicated INDIVIDUALS — in touch with others, but operating independently while focusing minimal effort in a common direction that will get the job done!

Silent Revolt is for real — it is not another dead-end trail.

THE SILENT REVOLT MOVEMENT can even put a few bucks into your pocket while you help yourself, your loved ones and your country. To get started in this exciting enterprise send $3 for our big, eye-popping Silent Revolt Information Packet. RSVP:

James Hazel
P.O. Box 1445
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123

SAMIZINE ($4 from Rayozine Studios, PO Box 291, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276): The documentation of the Samizine art show held at Minor Injury Gallery in Brooklyn late last year. The forty pages here contain only a small fraction of the art that was on the walls, but they capture some of its manic spirit. Includes works by Michael Manning, Julie Doucet, Wayne Honath, Bob X, Mary Fleener, Chris Winkler, and dozens more of underground and marginal artists. (D-40)

★★★★★

Mavji K. Savla, **A MANIFESTO OF PHILOSOPHY** (Applied Philosophy Study Centre, N-45 Gandhidham, 370201, INDIA): This slim booklet is subtitled "A Search for Foundational Principles for Philosophico-Religious Systems". The author presents his current thinking, admittedly incomplete, in the form of 33 "Sutras", short statements and questions. He seems to be looking for a system which speaks to the basic living needs of man first and the higher spiritual needs later, and which is democratically available to everyone rather than an elite—thus leaving out most of today's ideas. (D-16t)

★★★★★

THE SECRET SCREEN ($4 from D.S. Black c/o Atlantis Express, 537 Jones St. #9156, San Francisco, CA 94102): A sort of parallel analysis of the 1988 e\Presidential election, collected by Art Tinnitus. It starts with a collage of Reagan headlines, and then moves into intellectual parodies of sound bites, campaign speeches, acceptance speeches, editorial endorsements and so on. In saying nothing with style these are scarcely distinguishable from the real thing except for their "we know it's all a scam" humor. Closes with some photos of anti-campaign posters and graffiti (my favorite: "Remove the rest of the asshole") and then...Bush headlines. (S-34t)

★★★★★

SELF-ACCEPTANCE ($3 & Age Statement from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A two-volume minicomic that "seriously reduces your chances of entering the gates of Heaven". It's a long barrage of obscenity and blasphemy, with Christ getting off, various crucified beings, busty women, hellfire and damnation preachers foaming at the mouth, and lots of other perversions. (M-88)

★★★★★

Clarence Shak, **A MISTAKE OR A GREAT BIG RIP-OFF?** (On Request from PO Box 15133, Honolulu, HI 96830): The latest explanation of Clarence's "Crusade to Abolish Traffic Tickets" (as well as stop signs and red lights). His basic arguments are that traffic laws are illicit infringements of freedom, that they raise the collision rate anyhow, and that they're designed to allow the government to run an extortion racket under the guise of traffic tickets. (D-16t)

★★★★★

SilverRaven, **THE SHADOW PRIMER** ($3 from Victor Brotte, Pagan Free Press, PO Box 55223, Tulsa, OK 74155): This is a very basic introduction to the Craft for those without a teacher handy (hence the name—it's a mini-Book of Shadows). SilverRaven gives some ideas on getting started, including a list of equipment and some solitary initiation rituals, and encourages learning from there. (S-17t)

★★★★★

SLOGANS ARE CONDOMS ($3 from PO Box 5554, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1N7, CANADA): A book of starkly typeset slogans, one per page, things like "The action of categorization is the commodity" and "Terrorize structure through open space". My copy came with a small button pinned to the front,captioned simply "Sold". (D-12)

★★★★★

Sheila Smith, **SHELF LIFE** ($3 from 408 Queen St. W, Toronto, ONT, M5V 2A7, CANADA): A "performance piece in print" that effectively uses letter size and other effects of hand-printing to convey the rise and fall of emotions. Basically this is an indictment of the System that gets us all working away and never being able to think and supposedly enjoying us, told in a medley of aphorisms, cliches, and raging shouts. It's good to get hit in the face with such an opposition view once in a while. (D-120)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **ARE THE HITLER DIARIES REAL OR FAKE?** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): Gerald seems to delight in taking on the Establishment view of things, and this is no exception. He concludes that there are enough evidences of truth that the Hitler diaries are real, but that they're being suppressed by the Zionists. Low-key historical revisionism. (S-3)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **FROM THE LAW OF THE SIXGUN TO THE LAW WITH THE SIXGUN** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): A short essay by Gerald in defense of anarchism. More precisely, it is a look at the situation in the Old West, before the law and courts arrived. According to Sprouse, this fits right in with the Heinlein adage "An armed society is a polite society." (S-2)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **JESUS WAS JUDAS** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): Sprouse rehearses the argument that there is no historical evidence for Jesus, but then claims the existence of Judas bar Judas, a fanatical rebel of the same time period, was well-documented. He ascribes the transformation of this person into Jesus was part of a Jewish plot to destroy the Northern European racial heritage of religion. Maybe not anti-semitic, but pretty darned close. (S-2)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **STRANGE OCCURENCES** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): This is in the form of chatty replies, possibly to letters or apazines. In any case, Gerald recounts a number of things—Sasquatch sightings, the Philadelphia experiment, strange magnetic effects, the dangers of Satanism—to show that the world is a stranger place than people give it credit for. (S-7)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **WATCHING THE "H" BOMB** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): Gerald argues, based on watching a number of tests from 58 miles away, that the H bomb is not such a threat as its cracked up to be. He suggests that the official support for disarmament is part of a Trilateral/CFR plot to leave the country defenseless against a takeover by a small cabal that will hang on to some bombs. Fallout in particular he discounts as a credible risk, based on anecdotal evidence from workers at the Nevada test site. (D-4t)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **WHO KILLED JFK AND WHY** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): The CIA did it, because Kennedy was too hard on communism, which posed a threat to the one-worlders. That's Gerald's conclusion, based on evidence introduced at a libel trial where the **SPOTLIGHT** was the defendant and called CIA operatives to testify as to their connections with Oswald. Would be more useful if it gave a case citation, or any other reference. (S-2)

★★★★★

Gerald L. Sprouse, **WHY I DON'T BELIEVE THAT MAN HAS EVER BEEN TO THE MOON** (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363): I certainly hope this one is a put-on, because if it's not, it contains far too many simple errors to be refuted in this space. There is no understanding of basic physics here, and the "discrepancies" he thinks he saw between what happened and what he expected to happen merely reflect on his own lack of knowledge. (S-3)

★★★★★

Chuck Taylor, **THE POET AS WARRIOR: A MANIFESTO** ($3 from Slough Press, PO Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): Chuck in this chapbook considers the question of why anyone would bother to publish poetry today, in an age when most people don't understand it or care about it. His answer is that the poet is a warrior against mass culture, striving to recapture a bit of individuality and tradition by bringing in emotions and ideas not given much thought. This is all wrapped up in an evaluation of some of the directions of both modern poetry and society. (D-24)

★★★★★

TO ME, AFM IS... (Trade from 18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150): Rian Fike is the mastermind behind the AFM exchange network, but he's silent here. Instead, he asked a whole bunch of folks, including Liz Was, David Ciaffardini, Jake Berry, Michael Behaviour and yours truly to complete the title sentence. The result is a network's-eye view of the way one free exchange functions. (S-8t)

★★★★★

Jason Underground, **BRAINSTORM** ($2 (?) from Jesus Freaks, Ink, 2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): A play about nonconformity, bigotry, and the crappy way that people treat other people—I think. Considering the various surreal things that happen, including brains being blown out the back of heads, I doubt that it will ever be staged. Jason seems to be saying something urgent about the underground and dignity, but it's not precisely clear what this is. (D-28)

★★★★★

Jason Underground, **EVERYONE I MEET BECOMES A VEGETARIAN, EVENTUALLY...** ($2 (?) from Jesus Freaks, Ink, 2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): A collection of short fables informed by Jason's dedication to Christianity. There's no overt religion in the stories, but it's pretty clear that he has a strong sense of what's right. Some of these are pretty clever, with O'Henry twists; others are more introspective. (D-20)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **TWISTED SMILE** ($2 from 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A novella about the life of one young man, Joey, who seems to have it reasonably good, with a new baby, until he gets involved in dealing dope to support himself. I know, that sounds awfully moralistic, but this isn't slanted that way. Instead, it's an examination of how meaningless it can be to get ahead in this world, and how warped our values can read. Ken has a nice style, and I enjoyed reading this. (M-48r)

★★★★★

Ken Wagner, **WHAT IS THE MEANING OF LIFE?** (SASE from Ken Wagner, 511 W. Sullivan, Olean, NY 14760): A "no-frills" pamphlet of philosophical speculation. Ken doesn't come to any conclusions, although he considers such heavy topics as life, death, fate, harmony, chaos, Jesus Christ and more. Could be read as a parody of the usual religious tract if you're in that sort of mood. (S-1)

★★★★★

Jason Walters, **ETERNAL ICE** (50¢ in stamps from 526 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117): For that price Jason will send you a whole pile of his writings. This latest mini has more eerie, depressing and strange short stories; in breadth of attack he reminds me a bit of Silverberg. Best bet here is "The Dostoevski Principle", about the System subverting its own opposition quite brazenly. (M-16r)

★★★★★

A WARNING TO AMERICAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL (25¢ & SASE from Tim Donovan, 7 Ashland St., Manchester, CT 06040): This broadside argues that we can't afford to jeopardize our relations with the Arab world and their oil supplies in order to support Israel, and that "those responsible for this dangerous and ultimately ruinous policy are not worthy of their U.S. citizenship". It's a bit stronger than the current anti-Zionist backlash in the mainstream media, but not much. (L-1)

★★★★★

JAKE WILDER'S BIG LITTLE BOOK OF NOTHING ($1 from Luke McGuff, PO Box 3987, Minneapolis, MN 55403): A collection of stories, posters and what-not that Luke put together for **LAUGHING WHALE**, but there are plenty of copies left. Jake is a wild guy, writing about other wild folks in a style that reminds me a bit of Joe Hoppe's stuff. Luke supplies a foldout centerfold poster of postmodern "Statements" and some pro-drug propaganda. A nice way to spend a few minutes. (M-28t)

★★★★★

Jarret B. Wollstein, **ENDING OUR DRUG NIGHTMARE** (5¢ each [minimum order $1] from ISIL, 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229): Put out by the International Society for Individual Liberty, this leaflet sets out in straightforward language the libertarian arguments for legalization of drug use. There's nothing especially new here, but it's good to have it all in one place. (S-2t)

★★★★★

WOUNDED CHILDREN ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from The Church of Tina Chopp, c/o Osiris Ranebo, PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): The latest in a series of tracts designed to recruit people to the religion of the Tinites, done up to look very much like those from Chick Publications. But these are much funnier, and preach a religion of snake worshipping and sacrificing the holy vegetable instead of being born again in Christ. (MM-24t)

★★★★★

XEROGRAPHIC WARFARE ($4 from Rayozine Studios, PO Box 291, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10276): A collection of 25 "Posters of the New York City Music Scene" presented in high-quality one-sided reproductions. There's plenty of good work here, notably contributions from Alex Ross, Daniel Hellman and John Terhorst. Some of the best work from any scene. (S-25)

★★★★★

PAMPHLET NOTES

•Henry Miller's **AN OPEN LETTER TO STROKER!**, which was reviewed last issue, is now available in a new edition for $6.60 directly from **STROKER**, 129-2nd Ave. #3, New York, NY 10003.

BANNED IN DC
PHOTOS AND ANECDOTES FROM THE DC PUNK UNDERGROUND (79-85)
compiled by Cynthia Connolly, Leslie Clague and Sharon Cheslow
edited by Cynthia Connolly, Leslie Clague, Sharon Cheslow and Lydia Ely

REBECCA HAMMEL

Faith at Wilson Center 9-17-82

A book of DC bands, Black and White, 8" x 11", 176 pages, 450 photos.
$12.00 postpaid in US. $15.00 in Canada and all other countries (Bookrate only)
Sun Dog Propaganda
PO Box 9743
Washington, DC 20016
Make money orders or checks payable to Cynthia Connolly

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Eighties Mail Art Networking

by John Held Jr.

One of the great ironies of mail art is that its acknowledged pioneer, New York artist Ray Johnson, is something of a hermitic loner, whose "happenings" would as often as not turn into "nothings". And yet this many of poetry possessing a natural generosity has paved the way towards the creation of an international network of artists.

As early as 1955, Johnson was quoted in the inaugural issue of the influential **VILLAGE VOICE** as having a mailing list of two hundred. "I send lists either to people I think would be interested or to people I think won't be interested." His correspondents at the time included socialite and noted party-giver Elsa Maxwell and James Barr, of the Museum of Modern Art.

Johnson was a product of the legendary American art school, Black Mountain College. It was there that such artists as John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Robert Rauschenberg and Buckminster Fuller, as well as many others, nurtured themselves in each other's company. Johnson was in direct contact with the beginnings of a new movement in American art, which eventually eclipsed the predominant Abstract Expressionist School of Art. Johnson's large circle of artworld friends were drawn together by his enigmatic use of the postal system around which the New York Correspondence School of Art was initiated. Although other artists had preceded Johnson in the use of the postal system for artistic means, most notably Marcel Duchamp and members of the Italian Futurist movement, it was Johnson's vigor and ability to manifest poetry from everyday life which led to his becoming the center of a gathering storm.

Throughout the fifties and sixties mail art, very much under the direct influence of Johnson, remained a closed mechanism of communication between artworld intelligentsia. But the slow spread of mail art during this period, often from person-to-person through the instructions of Johnson to "add and send to" an often unknown third person, led to the eventual public display at the Whitney Museum of Art of the New York Correspondence School exhibition curated by Johnson and Marcia Tucker.

In the November, 1970 issue of **ARTFORUM** magazine, author Kasha Linville wrote:

Johnson is concerned with loosely structured interactions, but not as a conceptual artist. Instead he is more a solicitous host who like to provide the opportunity to meet, by mail or in person at one of the NYCS meetings, and to watch what happens. The only sad note about Johnson's Whitney diversion is it seems a shame to catch such a living thing in flight, to pin it down and make a museum piece of it.

But this "living thing" was not yet "in flight". In truth it was still a caterpillar and it was evolving into something very different from the schoolyard of the New York artworld intelligentsia.

Indeed, this first mail art show at the Whitney Museum of American Art was the beginning of a revolution in art. Because it was through the mail art show that a previously fractured network was linked. Invitations to mail artists were distributed in mass mailings from names gathered from newly emerging sources. Mail art exhibitions flourished throughout the seventies and into the eighties. In my book, **INTERNATIONAL ARTIST COOPERATION: MAIL ART SHOWS, 1970-1985**, the growth of mail art shows is documented having increased from 2 in 1970; 46 in 1976; 58 in 1977; 75 in 1979; until in 1981 there are some 281 shows accounted for.

In the middle seventies, the mail art show came to mean "all work shown", "no fees to enter", and "documentation to all participants". Sensing that something important was happening, yet receiving little support from the art establishment, mail artists took it upon themselves to curate their own shows, and thus insure the growth of their preferred medium. I documented 1,335 mail art shows between 1970 and 1985. No doubt there were many more than this.

The network began to echo the sentiments of Fluxus artist Robert Filliou, who began to develop the concept for an Eternal Network of artists. In a 1973 issue of **FILE** magazine he wrote:

If it is true that information about the knowledge of all modern art research is more than any one artist could comprehend, then the concept of the avant-garde is obsolete. With incomplete knowledge, who can say who is in front, and who ain't. I suggest that considering each artist as part of an Eternal Network is a much more useful concept.

Throughout the seventies the Eternal Network gathered strength. Former participants with established art reputations dropped out while isolated emerging artists from throughout the world drew strength from an ever-increasing brotherhood of artists who utilized the postal system for its connecting fabric.

The evolution of mail art was also aided by publications which took up its cause and became central clearinghouses of information. The first major publication linking the newly emerging network was **FILE**, published by the Canadian art collective General Idea. Included with **FILE** was the work of another Canadian art group, Image Bank, which began compiling "image request lists". But by the middle seventies General Idea turned its attention elsewhere, mirroring the movement of well-known artists away from mail art. Stepping in to fill the void was **UMBRELLA** magazine, edited by art librarian Judith A. Hoffberg.

During the late seventies and until the mid eighties, **UMBRELLA** became the publication of record for the mail art movement. A growing list of mail art shows and projects were announced in each issue swelling the ranks of newcomers to the network. And a glance at the issues published by Hoffberg leaves a trail of mail art activity in the early eighties.

1980:

Fluxus collection at Ecart bookshop in Geneva, Switzerland.
Mohammed Center for Restricted Communication, Genova, Italy.
Other Books and So bookstore, Amsterdam, Holland.
ARTE POSTALE #10, by Vittore Baroni.
COMMONPRESS 33, edited by Russell Butler (BuZ Blurr).
Des Moines Festival of the Avant-Garde announces the formation of the Performance Bank (Fred Truck).
Mail art show to free Buster Cleveland from a California jail.
AU requests mail art for Japan Modern Art 80.

RUBBERSTAMPMADNESS begins publication.

"Electroworks" exhibit of photocopy art at George Eastman House, Rochester, New York.

Bern Porter states he was doing mail art in 1920.

Anna Banana completes her second Banana Olympics.

Xerox exhibition curated by Ginny Lloyd at La Mamelle, San Francisco, California.

Lon Spiegelman raises questions concerning the paying of fees for mail art catalogs.

Mail art show by Michael Duquette (Toronto, Canada) is censored.

Ulises Carrion's **SECOND THOUGHTS** is published.

LIBELLUS, a monthly mail art publication by Guy Schraenen.

Johan van Geluwe begins his Museum project (**COMMONPRESS** 40).

1981:

Postage stamp exhibition at Artpool, Budapest, Hungary.

C.D.O. archive in Parma, Italy active.

Carlo Pittore opens La Galleria dell 'Occhio in New York City.

John Held Jr. shows "Letters to Mohammed".

VEC audio archives.

RUBBER continues publication from Stempelplaats Gallery, Amsterdam, Holland.

Jean Brown Archives, Tyringham, Massachusetts, featured in **UMBRELLA**.

E.F. Higgins auctions off his Stamp Paintings.

David Cole and Paul Zelevansky create MC magazine.

Lon Spiegelman holds a workshop on mail art for children at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Harley announces the First International Mail Art Congress (never takes place).

Henk Fakkeldij holds a "mail art performance" called The Meeting in Utrecht.

1982:

Communication to Poland disrupted by political activity.

Chuck Stake celebrates his tenth anniversary in mail art.

Rimma and Valery Gerlovin issue a collection of envelopes called "Letters to the USSR".

Edgardo-Antonio Vigo of Argentina issues number 8 in the series "Our International Stamps Cancelled Seals".

Nattovning (Night Exercises) being organized by Peter Meyer for Swedish National Radio.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF COPY ARTISTS QUARTERLY begins publication.

Bookworks 82, a conference on artists' books, is held in Philadelphia.

Geza Perneczky active in conceptual book publishing.

Mike Bidner seeking information on "artistamps" for a forthcoming catalog.

Modern Realism gallery opens in Dallas, Texas, to show mail art, xerox, artists' books, rubberstamps and Fluxus.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL MAIL ART MANIFESTO issues to mark the Twentieth Anniversary of the New York Correspondence School (c.d.o., Parma, Italy).

New York Cavellini Festival.

Michael Mollett distributes his VW bus through the mail.

Peter Horobin (Scotland) visits Jurgen Olbrich in Kassel, West Germany.

NATIONAL STAMPAGRAPHIC begins publication.

Third National High School Postal Art Exhibition in Washington, D.C., organized by the Cracker Jack Kid.

1983:

"Correspondence as Art: An Historical Overview" curated bu Mike Crane is exhibited at San Jose State University, California.

Anna Banana tours "Why Banana?" a performance artwork in Canada and the United States.

Ginny Lloyd opens The Storefront Gallery in San Francisco for mail art and performance activities.

ABOUT VILE published by Anna Banana.

Press Me Close produces t-shirts by Lon Spiegelman, Carlo Pittore, Bern Porter and others.

TRAX published by Piermario Ciani, Italy.

Maine Mail Art Exhibition events feature Carlo Pittore, Steve Random, R. Saunders, and others.

"Mail Music", an international mail art project by Nicola Frangione is released as an album with 47 artists represented.

The film "Mail Art Romance" is shown, documenting the marriage of mail artists John and C. Mehrl Bennett.

Mail Art for Peace catalog by Peter Kustermann.

1984:

Guy Bleus organizes the European Cavellini Festival 1984 in Brussels.

World Art Post catalog distributed by Artpool, Budapest.

"Mail Art Then and Now" curated by Ronny Cohen is shown at Franklin Furnace, New York City, from January 18 through March 10.

ND 2 is published by Daniel Plunkett.

"Injury by Jury Mail Art Show" curated by Cracker Jack Kid.

"Works by Ray Johnson" shown at Nassau County Museum opens February 7.

H.R. Fricker in New York.

Two panel discussion on mail art at 22 Wooster Gallery, sponsored by Artists Talk on Art, generate a storm of controversy.

Cavellini changes his address.

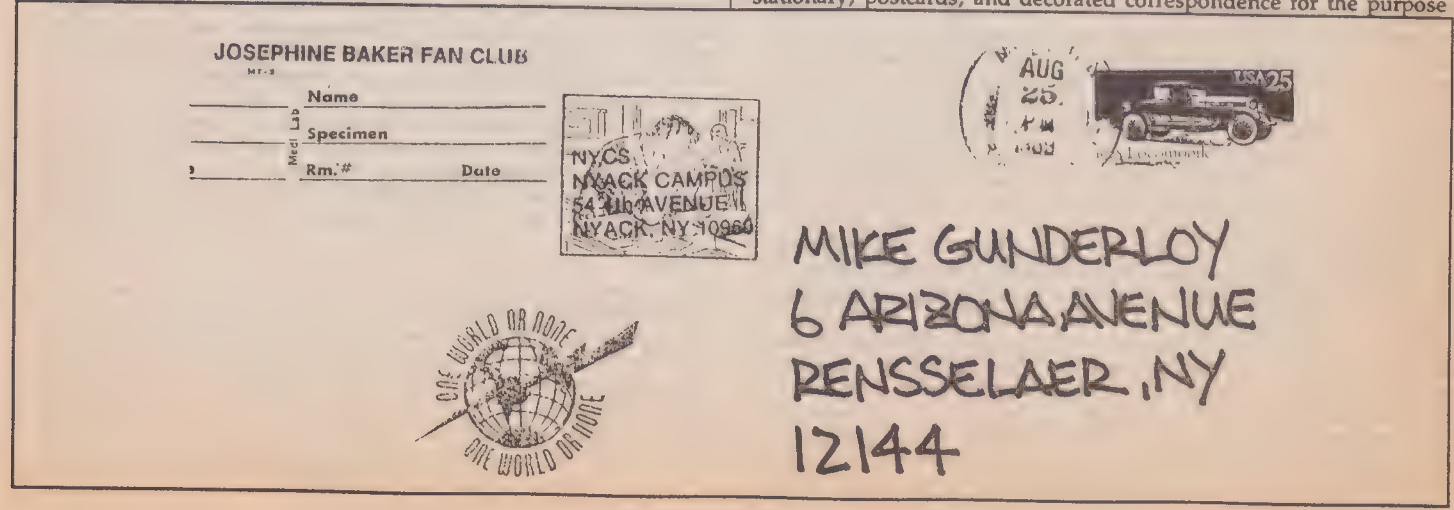
Piotr Rypson shows his retrospective mail art archive in a Polish exhibition.

TAM begins a monthly bulletin of mail art activities.

"Mail Art About Mail Art" published as **COMMONPRESS** 55.

While this essay deals primarily with the state of mail art and its explosive growth in the eighties, to better understand the present situation it is necessary to draw upon our knowledge of the past. From increasing research on mail art, it becomes clear that mail art is not so much the progeny of Ray Johnson as it is a parallel development of the modern art movement, and that an understanding of this fuller history of mail art can give us a better perspective of eighties mail art networking.

Duchamp's prototypical postal action of attaching four postcards to each other and sending them to his neighbors, the Arensbergs, is becoming well-known. Less understood is the impact of the Italian Futurist movement on international postal activity. The group developed not only manifestoes, for which they are famous, but stationary, postcards, and decorated correspondence for the purpose



JOSEPHINE BAKER FAN CLUB

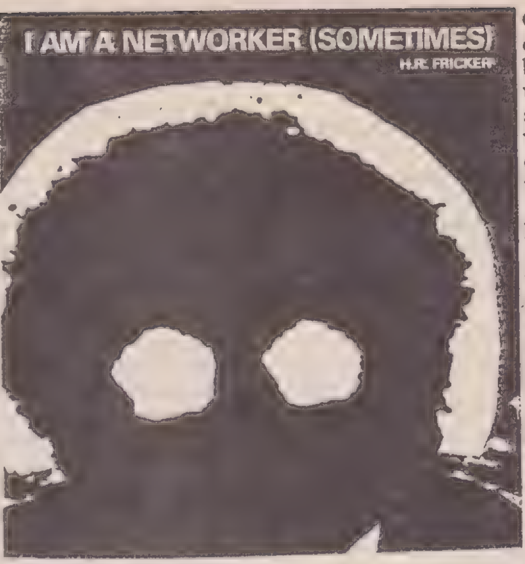
Medl Lab
Name
Specimen
Rm.# Date

NYCS
NYACK CAMPUS
54 4th AVENUE
NYACK, NY 10960

AUG
25

USA 25

MIKE GUNDERLOY
6 ARIZONA AVENUE
RENSSELAER, NY
12144


I AM A NETWORKER (SOMETIMES)
H.R. FRICKER

of connecting its far-flung membership and to publicize the group's positions. Two books have been published in Europe devoted to the subject of Futurist postal activity, one in France and another in Italy. At one time the Fluxus contribution to mail art was overshadowed by Ray Johnson, and now it appears that both Ray Johnson and Fluxus have been overshadowed by the Futurist factor.

By now the Fluxus contribution to mail art has been well established. Not only in the development of newsletters to link the diverse participants, and the joint projects conducted through correspondence, but especially Robert Watts' use of the postage stamp as an artistic medium, various members' use of the rubber stamp, and Ken Friedman's role in the compilation of mailing lists.

It should be noted that both Futurism and Fluxus had very strong performance art elements in their repertoire, and this we will see also sheds light on the current state of mail art. And like Futurism, Dada, and Fluxus, mail art is as much attitude as artform. At times this attitude explodes into a public display of emotion.

Such was the case during the Franklin Furnace/Artists Talk on Art controversy in February of 1984. This event galvanized the mail network and forced it to examine itself. This same period of self-reflection saw the publication of the first major anthology of mail art writings, **CORRESPONDENCE ART: SOURCE BOOK FOR THE NETWORK OF INTERNATIONAL POSTAL ART ACTIVITY,** edited by Michael Crane and Mary Stofflet. It remains the landmark work documenting the field. The same year saw an unprecedented number of mail artists drawn together at Interdada '84. The last few years have been active ones in mail art.

1986 saw the implementation of the Worldwide Decentralized Mail Art Congresses, a concept developed by two Swiss artists, Gunther Ruch and H.R. Fricker. I personally consider this to be the most important development in the fifteen years I have been active in mail art. More than 70 Congresses were held with over 500 participants from 25 countries. Each Congress was encouraged to explore networking concerns (the nature of interpersonal contacts, the art market, archives, mass mail art versus one-to-one communication, cooperation, etc.) and to report the conclusions to the two Swiss organizers. Gunther Ruch has published the Congress Book, which unites the various opinions expressed.

One of the most important effects of the Mail Art Congresses is the fact that many mail artists, who had previously only corresponded with each other, were given an opportunity to meet. This is certainly not a new development, for Ray Johnson was the host of many a New York Correspondence Club meeting in the sixties, but this was a widespread series of meetings of unprecedented scope.

Before the initiation of the Worldwide Decentralized Mail Art Congresses, it was perfectly legitimate for a mail artist simply to stay at home and write letters, never having to meet any of his correspondents to function at an international networking level. But since the Congress year of 1986, to be truly involved in mail art is to confront the greater world in extended discussions. This was a mistake previous to the Franklin Furnace debates. Mail artists thought they were in agreement, only to find in a face-to-face confrontation that there was a wide gulf between them. It seemed that only by meeting and intensive discussion could many of those disputes be resolved.

As a result of the Congress Year, 1987 saw a number of collaborative projects. Jurgen O. Olbrich, who was invited to participate in the prestigious documenta performance section in his hometown of Kassel, West Germany, invited fellow mail artists to participate in his "City Souvenir" project. This "expanded performance" took the form of the various artists preparing storefront window displays to reflect the various manufactured products, or souvenirs, of their respective hometowns, and a cooperative display in a department store, whereby these "souvenirs" were given away free to the unsuspecting shoppers. By going to where the people were, Olbrich and his collaborators (including Chuck Stake from Canada) reflected the theme of the 1987 documenta, which sought to stress the blend between art and life. Documenta was almost universally denounced as having failed its stated mission and instead portrayed the art world as art-market. But Olbrich's concept of an expanded performance bringing art to where the people were remains a bright spot.

Again in West Germany, this time in Minden, Jo Klaffki, beter known as Joki Mail Art, continued a series of mail art meetings in an attempt to establish Minden as a mail art mecca. "Mailart-Station-Minden" was held in conjunction with the Minden Arts Festival from September 26 to October 4, 1987. It featured the participation of mail artists Dobrica Kamperelic (Yugoslavia), H.R. Fricker (Switzerland), Ruggero Maggi (Italy), A. Dudeck-Durer (Poland), and West Germans Achim Schnyder and Peter Kustermann, among others.

Joki writes, "There may be over 1000 mailartists serving in different links of the international network to inspire each other. The simplest way to do this is per post. Were one to discount the transported art pieces there would still remain a highly qualified correspondence-art as the most important feature of the Mailart movement. Above and beyond the Postal communication would be the next step of communicative works, the personal contacts."

We also see this urge to communicate a live art manifested in Uruguay. Clemente Padin, an active mail art participant, has served as an inspiration to a whole generation of South American artists. He had been involved with mail art and visual poetry since the late sixties, and was jailed for a time in the seventies for his postal activities. This precipitated a widespread campaign for his release through the mail art network, along with that of his fellow countryman Jorge Carabello. Mail art in South America takes a political stance in response to prevailing conditions. So it was not surprising that in September 1987 a collaborative work supported by the Uruguayan Mail Art Association and featuring Antonio Ladra was held in which Ladra marched in a parade with a sandwich board making known his concerns for the Peruvian people on the anniversary of the establishment of Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship. Padin writes, "The question is not only to take the art (as it is understood) to the street, but transform its social meaning in actions and works that have to be actively inserted in its development, referring to those problems that are specially concealed, sensitizing people, trying to give them courage to change their views. And such a modification would change the art work, its consumption, but even more, the artist-spectator relationship."

Two of mail art's most indefatigable "tourists" are Shozo Shimamoto and Ryosuke Cohen of Japan. "Tourism" has become a whole sub-genre of mail art developing from the concept of H.R. Fricker that extends the postal experience into a life experience. Cohen and Shimamoto came to the United States in 1987 after successful tours of Eastern and Western Europe in 1986. Cohen is well known for his Brain Cell project, in which he gathers specific design elements of his correspondents and combines them on one sheet. Shimamoto is one of the most respected figures in mail art. In the fifties, he was active in the Gutai movement, which had an enormous impact on bringing progressive art concepts to Japan. Today he directs AU, an artist union for unidentified art. Their North American tour included stops in Baltimore, New York, Portland (Maine), Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Calgary, In each city they met with mail art contacts and performed Shozo's "Networking on the Head", in which his shaved head served as a projection screen for slides of mail artists that were sent to him from around the network.

In Dallas, his appearance on July 28, 1987, coincided with the one-hundredth birthday of Marcel Duchamp. To recognize this date of importance, we performed an act to honor Duchamp at a Dallas club appropriately named Club Dada. I had Ryosuke cut off my hair, which I then pasted on the back of Shozo's head in the shape of a star. This paid homage to Duchamp's action of 1919 (or 1921, depending on the source), and sometimes called the "Tonsure", in which he shaved a star on the back of his head. This was one of the first instances of what would now be considered "body art".

This act points out once again what has become an integral part of the mail art network in the last few years—the extension of the postal experience to live cooperative action by networkers.

If this aspect of mail art has roots in Futurism, Dada, and Fluxus, we must remember that there are other elements of creativity common to these precursors of mail art. These movements also had a strong influence on the written (and printed) word. And mail art too has its share of literary figures—Jack Saunders, Al Ackerman, David Zack, John M. Bennett, Joel Lipman, and George Myers—to name but a few.

This literary aspect of mail art illustrates the ties that mail art has with other alternate, underground, marginal or counter-culture genres (call them what you will). The above named artists have ties to the small literary scene as well as to mail art. Nowhere is this illustrated as well as in the writings of **NATION** columnist Stewart Klawans, who has an occasional column in the magazine called the "Small Scene". In 1988, Klawans mentioned mail artists Saunders, Ackerman, Anna Banana's **BANANA RAG** and the Crackerjack Kid's **NETWORKING CURRENTS** in his exploration of the small press scene.

Another sub-cult which has increasingly strong ties to mail art is the music cassette underground. Dan Plunkett's **ND** magazine has its roots in this genre. And mail artists Monty (Istvan Kantor) Cantsin, VEC's Rod Summers of Holland, and Italy's Vittore Baroni and his TRAX project have long been involved in sound and audio artforms which appear to be converging with underground music. There are many other mail artists involved in this: Peter Mayer of Sweden, Minoy in Los Angeles, James "Six-Fingered Nunzio" Cobb in San Antonio, Gerald Juppiter-Larsen and his group the Haters in Canada, and Nichola Frangione of Italy who produced the album "Mail Music" to name but a few.

The proliferation of mail art publications is also finding it has strong links to the fanzine and publishing underground,. Editors of mail art publications like Dobrica Kammperelic of **OPEN WORLD**, Daniel Plunkett of **ND**, and Vittore Baroni of **ARTE POSTALE** have much in common with other publishers in the science fiction, music, anarchist, and libertarian fields.

And pseudo-cults like the Church of the SubGenius have strong affinities for mail artists, who share the Church's dada lifestyle. Mail art's own cult-within-a-cult, Neoism, is attracting adherents both from within and from outside the strict boundaries of mail art.

And maybe that's the whole point: there are no strict boundaries any more. I was surprised when Lloyd Dunn, the editor of the excellent photocopy journal **PHOTOSTATIC**, wrote to me that he was *not* a mail artist, but a networker interested in photocopy. It just so happened that photocopy interests and mail art issues overlap.

These various special interest groups, and I haven't meant to exclude the rubber stamp enthusiast, who has enjoyed a long history of involvement in mail art, are finding that mail art has established networks and strategies (like the mail art show structure or the mail art publication where each contributor of a certain amount of pages receives a free issue) that work for them as well.

With all the merging going on, it becomes a distinct possibility that mail art could lose its own identity, fracturing into a myriad of sub-genres. But mail art has established a strong history: Futurism, Dada, Nouveau Realism, Fluxus, Ray Johnson. And international mail art networking's great strength has been to serve as an umbrella for these diverse fields such as audio, rubber stamps, artists' postage stamps, photocopy, artists' publications, poetry and literature, computer art, and so on.

So far, at any rate, mail art *is* proving itself eternal. It has extended itself upon such publications as **FILE** and **UMBRELLA**, yet when these publications reconsidered their support, the artofrm adapted and found new avenues of making its voice heard. Currents rise and fall in mail art. Artist postage stamps, mail art shows, rubber stamps, tourism; each fluctuates according to particular concerns and fashions of the moment. Even countries rise and fall in the mailstream of postal activity. Italy has traditionally been an active voice in mail art. Shozo and Ryosuke's frenzied activities on behalf of mail art have caused Japan to take a prominent role in current mail art networking. The Soviet Union is currently embarking upon the seas of mail art. But Australia, while it still has die-hard enthusiasts like Pat and Dick Larter, has lost much of the energy it seemed to posses in the early and mid-seventies.

Themes in mail art come and go as well. In recent years, the Neoist philosophy has swept mail art. Tourism has become an integral part of the networking experience. And in 1988, "Plagiarism" became a prominent concept with Festivals of Plagiarism being held in London, San Francisco, and Madison, Wisconsin.

There are concepts in mail art that are currently being questioned and revitalized. For the past several years, the question of mail art archives has been raised. Who really owns them, the receiver or the artists that created and mailed the works away? And can they be sold? (And more importantly, does anyone want to buy them?). In 1987, Vittore Baroni in a special issue of his influential **ARTE POSTALE** magazine dared to state that mail art and money *do* mix. And many agree that there are times when indeed they do.

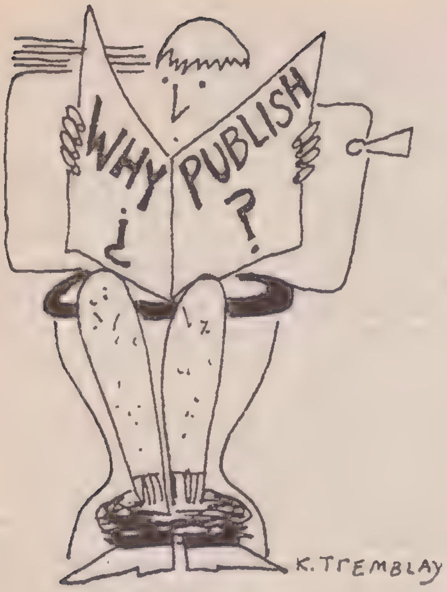
Another controversial concept is the integration of mail art into the framework of the traditional art establishment. In the catalog accompanying the exhibition "Corresponding Worlds—Artists' Stamps", curator Harley (a long-time mail artist) wrote:

> I realize that this is a controversial approach to the mail-art network that prides itself on its origins as an alternative to the labyrinth of the highly politicized "art world" of galleries, museums and collectors. Personally, I feel that the integration of the traditional art world structure and the mail-art network is inevitable. My response is that the mail-artist should play the pivotal role in this integration.

The one thing that can be said in confidence about mail art is that its history has never been dull. This vibrancy is what distinguishes mail art from other more static forms of art. The Eternal Network marches to a drum beat of its own, toward a future of undetermined promise.

(Reprinted, with permission, from the German translation in **I AM A NETWORKER SOMETIMES: MAIL-ART AND TOURISM IM NETWORK DER 80ER JAHRE**, by H.R. Fricker, Verlag Vexer, St. Gallen, Switzerland, 1989. Available from Printed Matter Bookstore at DIA, 77 Wooster St., New York, NY 10012)

PAR AVION
LUFTPOST
27.09.89
Norge
MIKE GUNDERLOY
6 ARIZONA AVENUE
RENSELAR., NY 12144-4502
USA



(Æditor's Note: some people have apparently concluded that the publication of the WHY PUBLISH? book marked the end of this column. That is certainly not true. We're still interested in hearing why *you* publish. Write it down, send it in, and I'll print it.)

★★★★★

Costas Mandilas, **ANICHTI POLI**

ANICHTI POLI is the oldest and most regular (quarterly) underground journal of the Greek scene. The first issue appeared in October 1980 and up till now continues to come out by the same main people who started the whole thing. It is the first and only Greek underground publication which ever became a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate (APS) during its very last day of existence in 1981.

The catch-phrase of **ANICHTI POLI** is "for the passages that haven't been found" and deals mainly with antiauthoritarian theories and practices, youth counter cultures, social ecology, alternative lifestyles, paganism, ancient Greeks, etc.

By the...insiders, it is further known that **ANICHTI POLI** is the official organ of creative propaganda of the Decentralist Confederation of Transgalactic Travelers, a very ancient tribe of discordant rascals, which for hundreds of centuries now, travel up and down the Universe to bring elixir wherever the Authoritarian Cancer threatens to bring total catastrophe and death upon the various planets.

★★★★★

Richard Freeman, **PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER**

The question for me is not "Why Publish?" but rather why publish **PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER** on Mac Floppy Disc. (Considering the kind of writing I do, if I don't publish it myself, it will forever remain unpublished. This was acceptable to me...I had learned to live with it, at least. It was seeing that the writing that friends were doing was not being published that led me to want to put out a magazine).

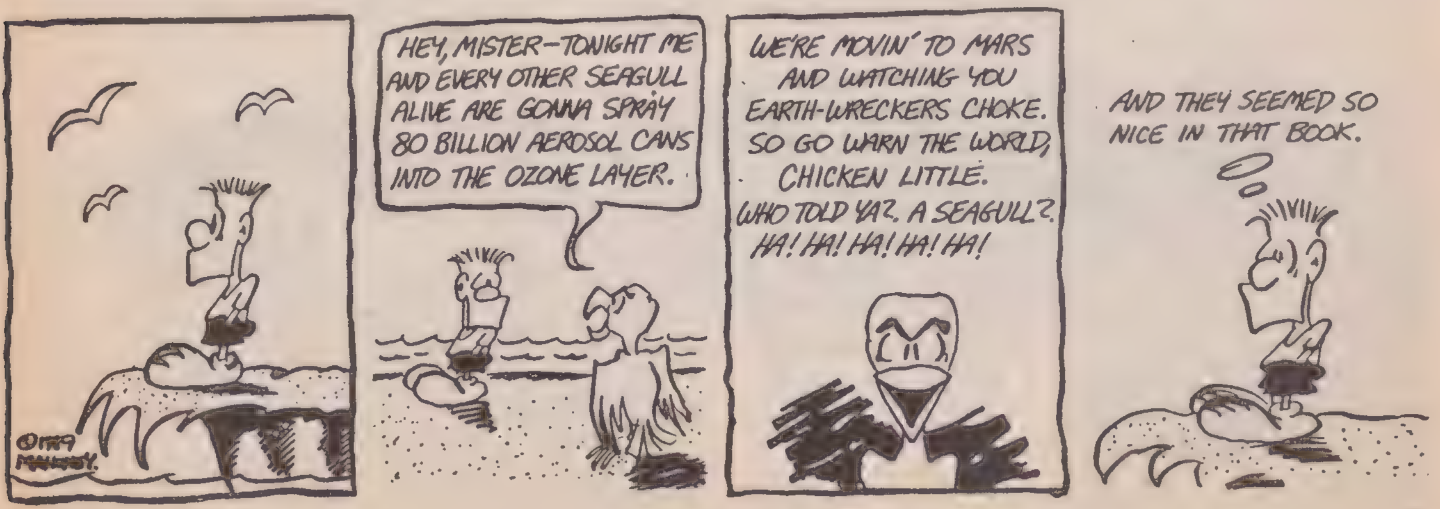
For the first 5 issues of **PBW**, I had a free Xerox at my job. Each issue grew larger as more & more people I did not know began to contribute. Then, with **PBW** running at 140 pages, I lost my Xerox privileges. Putting out a very short run with free Xerox was costing about $100/issue. I decided that if I took **PBW** to a place like Kinko's...and charged $4/copy—it might cost only about $400 for 40 copies...and for each additional copy I'd lose from $6 to $8. I thought about buying or renting a copy machine—but with the price of toner, paper, postage & the inevitable breakdowns, there looked to be only minimum savings.

Meanwhile, I had a Big Mac sitting in the living room—just waiting for someone to decide how to use it. It's true that I'm a one finger typist and the thought of typing 140+ pages every 3 months was...I don't even want to think of the mot juste here. True, someone might send their poetry or prose on floppy to me...and, in the latest issue, I had 150 pages of something called Metametamorphosis that I wanted to comment on...already on the computer and ready to transfer (as soon as I could figure out how to do it). So the latest issue runs to 250+ pages...at a cost per copy of $1.50. A buck for the floppy, 45¢ for postage, and a nickel for the envelope. (We will not factor in my typing time...as I am a terrible typist, my time is worthless.) It looks as if **PBW** could run to 350 pages and still fit on a floppy disc.

It is true that most people don't have Macs and so will find it difficult to read **PBW**. But between being hard to read & not being able to publish at all...And I am hoping that computer literacy includes the possibility that people with computers will actually want to read.

I'd be happy to correspond with anyone who wants to know more about this most unhappy fact of publishing...though I leave with this thought: that if the press is free only to those who own a press, then computers, at least for now, offer the possibility of owning a fairly inexpensive press.

(You can reach Richard at 130 W. Limestone, Yellow Springs, OH 45387).


HEY, MISTER—TONIGHT ME AND EVERY OTHER SEAGULL ALIVE ARE GONNA SPRAY 80 BILLION AEROSOL CANS INTO THE OZONE LAYER.
WE'RE MOVIN' TO MARS AND WATCHING YOU EARTH-WRECKERS CHOKE. SO GO WARN THE WORLD, CHICKEN LITTLE. WHO TOLD YA?. A SEAGULL?. HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
AND THEY SEEMED SO NICE IN THAT BOOK.

Anni Ackner's
Stars on One

Well, I knew this was going to happen. I just knew it. As soon as that gaudy little ball began its annual descent into the happy, excited throng of desperate fun-seekers and the petty thieves who love them, as soon as Dick Clark—or whoever it was. Somehow, in these situations, whatever unfortunate male it is that has been commandeered into serving as host for the festivities begins to take on the air of Dick Clark, so that it soon becomes impossible to make a rational judgment as to who he was before he donned that attractive cardboard tiara. What occasionally worries *me* is that they might all, to a man, possibly *be* Dick Clark—had fairly wished us all a "Happy New Year!", as soon as that horrific number "1990" had flashed across the television screen, and that lovely, quiet fellow with all the colourful magazines upstairs had flashed across the hallway, then I knew, I knew beyond the shadow of every reasonable doubt that it was going to happen again. After all, it happens a couple of days after ever New Year's Eve, and really, what is the start of a New Decade, at is most basic, than New Year's Eve blown up out of all proportion? And I was right, too, wasn't I? The very next day, *the very next day* mind you, when most of our bodies were still warm and before it had even completely sun in that they were actually going to pre-empt Phil Donahue for something called—I think—The Federal Express Orange Bowl Parade (a name which conjures up all manner of images, not one immediately describable), they started coming.

The Ten Best Movies Lists.

Now, we've discussed Ten Best Movies Lists before—oh yes, we have, somewhere back in the foggy mists of time, when this column was new and I was a young, carefree, sprightly thing who still believes that no one in his or her right mind would attempt another remake of *Phantom of the Opera*—and I even, at that time, gave in and wrote one, for some year or another, and I see no particular reason to go into it all again except that, well, here it is 19-bloody-90, and you would think, what with the shuttle going up and the Berlin Wall coming down and Noriega getting arrested and *Beauty and the Beast* getting canceled, that people would find something else to think about, but, apparently, this is too much to ask. Apparently—and I say "apparently" because I can not even pretend to understand all the underlying motivations of this sort of phenomenon—the turn of the decade has proven entirely too much for the Movie Commentators, Media Pundits and Grown-Up Film Critics of all flavours and, not only are the issuing forth with The Ten Best Movies of 1989, most of them have lost whatever tenuous hold they may have accidentally retained on reality and are actually, in front of God and Dr. Art Ulene and everybody, busily compiling lists of The Ten Best Movies of the Entire 1980's.

Do you realize the implications of this? First of all, one must assume that any given one of these Wizards—for the sake of discussion, let's choose one and call him, oh, Broadway Jed Leland—can remember, through the haze of depression and paranoia that normally surrounds people who find themselves in this profession, seeing any movies to begin with, which is a pretty big assumption all by itself. Then one has to suppose that, of the very few films that good old Jed has not conveniently blotted out or ignored altogether, ten of them did not star Sylvester Stallone, Darryl Hannah or somebody named Corey, and can therefore be classed, however antically, as "the best" without automatically causing the classer to break out in a cold, cold sweat. Allowing that, one then must imagine that our friend Jed has taken the trouble to make at least relatively certain that these ten were released during the 1980's (and the line between a 1979 and a 1980 release date is often nearly invisible) and, well, I think you see my point. Tawana Brawley had a better story.

Leaving all that aside, however, I shouldn't mind these particular flights of fancy so very much if Broadway Jed and his buddies would just scuttle off to some nice, dark corner and amuse themselves with them quietly, leaving the rest of us to pursue our more mundane, conservative pastimes, like cross-dressing and watching re-runs of *The Ann Southern Show*, but it goes without saying that this is not the way of what passes as our modern civilization. No, it's the sort of luck *we* have that we live in a country where just about everybody not only feels compelled, but is positively *encouraged*, to publish his or her little list in anything that even remotely resembles a newspaper or a magazine, with the result that those of us with one or two other things to do—there's that bathroom floor, for instance—begin to feel like positive Communists if we don't go along with the crowd.

Because my sainted mother did not raise any Communists—and if you'd been to as many of their dances as she had, you'd understand why—because I'm as much of a good sport as the next guy, and because the most recent movie I saw was *Prancer*, and if you think I'm going to spend the next three or four pages attempting to get a coherent review of *that*, then I'm sure the Reverend Al Sharpton would like to have a few words with you, I am about to give in yet again and present my own modest list of movies for the eighties. Having said all that, however, I want it clearly understood right at the start that (a) I mercifully did not sit through every movie released in the eighties, so this list is culled only from the few I did see; (b) I make no claims that any of these are the best movies even of the ones I did seem but are only the ones that, for one reason or another, struck me pleasantly enough that I can remember them without recoiling in abject horror; and (c) I am also one of those people that couldn't be bothered looking up every fine point of every release date—Roger Ebert maybe could be bothered doing all that research, but then, you don't see Roger Ebert making merry back here among the zine reviews, do you?—so if it turns out that one of these films was released in 1979 or even in 1978, tell it to the judge, tell it to the Marines—if you can find enough postage for a letter to Panama—but, for pity's sake, don't tell it to me. It's 1990 and I still haven't gotten over 1968 yet.

On that note, then:

Anni's Ten Movies Probably Released Sometime in the 1980's That She Thought Were Pretty Good. Honestly.

1. ADVENTURES OF BUCKAROO BANZAI: Action, thrills, rock'n'roll, giant ant men, Rastafarians, weird science, early screen appearances by Peter Weller and Ellen Baskin, and John Lithgow looking as if he'd been hanging out with Sam Kinison and sounding as if he's been hanging out with Chico Marx. What more could a thinking person ask of a science fiction comedy? (What? You want Jeff Goldblum, too? We got Jeff Goldblum, too.) Lacking the pretensions to seriousness of the Spielberg, Lucas and even *Star Trek* epics, and a box office flop (though it gathered a certain cult following and was rather liked by some of the less elf-conscious Grown-Up Critics), *Buckaroo Banzai* manages to retain most of its humour and peculiar charm even after repeated viewings (and I've seen it more than 10 times, so I'm the girl who knows). No matter where you go, there you are.

2. AFTER HOURS: Sometimes, during those moments of dead time, while I'm waiting for the 5 minute long, hysterical message on the answering machine of some self-styled wit to play itself out or anxiously watching a Sara Lee cheese cake defrost, I get to

thinking about what it must have been like to be at the production meeting in which Martin Scorcese (*Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull*) announced that his next film would be an uproarious black comedy written by a 27 year old graduate student at Columbia University, Then I think about Griffin Dunne being chased through the streets of Soho by a Mr. Softee truck. I think about Teri Garr and her hundreds of cans of Adorne and the rat traps surrounding her bed, Roseanna Arquette and her room-mate, the paper-mache sculptress and part-time dominatrix, Verna Bloom in the basement, John Heard in the bad. Then I begin to laugh and laugh, and when I can finally pull myself together, I go out and rent this film again. Again and Again.

3. THE COLOR PURPLE: Which now has the distinction of being the only film I have ever reviewed three times in this column. Yes, it as as good as you've heard and as bad as you've heard. Yes, Whoopie Goldberg is astonishing, the supporting cast is uniformly wonderful, and Oprah Winfrey fine enough to make you forget all about diets and publicity and over-exposure. Yes, the Steven Spielberg direction is overwrought and badly paced, the pretty-pretty cinematography nearly grotesque in light of the story being told, the score often misplaced and overwhelming. Yes, it is hokey and sentimental. Yes, you will cry. The publicity and controversy that attended its original showings came very near to eclipsing *The Color Purple*—as you may remember, it was snubbed at the Oscars, losing in several categories that it really should have taken and, at various points in its history, its creators and cast were accused of racism, sexism, exploitation, pandering and just about everything else short of assault with a deadly weapon—but beyond all that is the movie itself, which probably isn't a good film by anyone's standards, but may just ultimately prove to be a great one.

4. FIELD OF DREAMS: The big mistake the producers of *Field of Dreams* made was to release this film in early spring. Possibly, they thought this was a nice idea because, being sort of about baseball, a start-of-the-season opening might be viewed as appropriate, but, as it turned out, it was a grave tactical error. For one thing, a film that opens in March or April, while it might enjoy a month or two of success, soon runs smack dab into the summer season and, unless it happens to heavily feature 35 or 40 semi-nude teenagers or at least a mass murderer, it stands an excellent chance of being completely forgotten, and then, too, as has been mentioned before, movies released too early in the year—meaning any time before December—are virtually never nominated for Academy Awards, and are therefore almost automatically doomed to obscurity in the minds of all but the most dedicated. All of which is an absolute shame in this case, because *Field of Dreams* is one of the most beautiful, lyrical and moving films released, not only in the last decade, but maybe ever. Based on W. P. kinsella's **SHOELESS JOE**, it is, as I said, sort of about baseball. It is also about dreams and the people who have then, love, hope, craziness, humour, writers, farmers, fathers and children. It is, briefly, a little bit about everybody in the world, and it's a very rare film that can make that claim. That the people connected with it—particularly Kevin Costner and James Earl Jones—will almost undoubtedly be passed over by the Academy Awards nominating committee in favour of overblown, overdrawn winter released like *Steel Magnolias* and, God help us, *Always*, is more than a shame. It's a tragedy.

5. THE LAST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST: Another side of Martin Scorcese, who is beginning to look, at the very least, hexagonal. Fundamentalist religious groups attempted to ban it, nervous theatre managers refused to play it, Cinemax blanked it out in some regions, the Academy again showed its true, cowardly nature by ignoring it nearly entirely, and underneath all the sound and fury was a precisely realized, exquisite, flawed account of humanity and divinity as personified by one man. There is nothing, really, to be added to all that's already been written about this one movie except to say that, *Batman* be damned, in my opinion, at least, *this* was the picture of the decade.

6. THE NATURAL: It is the nature of the game of baseball, it seems—slow, languid, graceful, dreamy, nearly balletic—to lend itself so wonderfully to mammoth, quiet allegories. Vaguely based on a Bernard Malamud short story, though with an entirely different ending, *The Natural* angered both baseball fans and cynics by being neither completely true to what some view as the game itself, and by sporting an ending that can fairly be described as "joyous". It is, admittedly, a chancy film, full of sentiment and nostalgia. Good bests evil, the hero is close to saintly, his lady fair the epitome of purity and goodness, the villain is the devil himself, but, ultimately, it all fits together like a perfectly executed double-play. Lovingly shot and edited, containing fine performances by Robert Redford, Glenn close, Wilford Brimley, Robert Duvall and Kim Basinger, among others, and with arguably one of the most beautiful scores ever composed for a film (courtesy of Randy Newman), *The Natural* is nothing but a delight, in the best sense of that word.

7. NEIGHBORS: Well, from the sublime to the I don't know what. This is not an easy film to like, and lots and lots off people very thoroughly didn't. Right off the top it's only fair to warn you that *Neighbors* is about 45 minutes too long, there are two or three incredibly boring stretches, and some of its humour can be characterized as unpleasant, to put it mildly. So what's it doing in this list? In the first place, it contains two absolutely sparkling performances by Dan Ackroyd and John Belushi—both of them playing against type, Belushi as the quiet, stodgy suburbanite terrorized by Ackroyd, the nasty, rowdy, revolting non-conformist—and, in the second, when it's funny, it's very, very funny indeed, besides being extremely eerie and peculiarly disturbing. You may not exactly *enjoy* this film, but I can guarantee that you won't easily forget it.

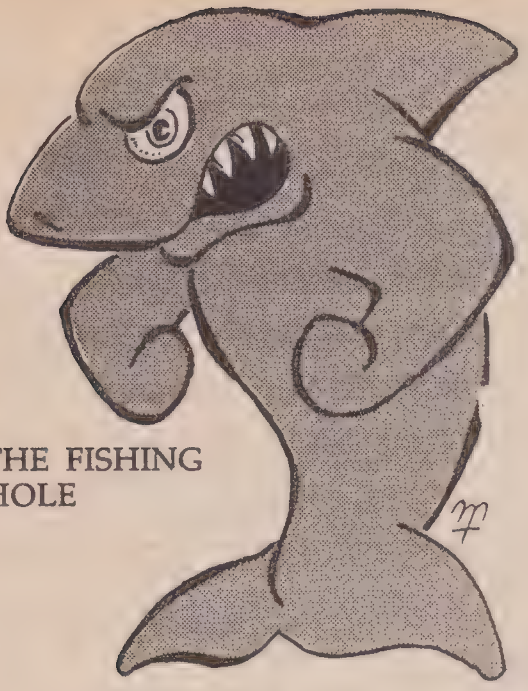
8. ROBOCOP: The highlight of my summer a couple of years back, *Robocop* snuck in under the guise of being just another blood-guts-and-dismembered-limbs crime thriller. One can only imagine the expressions of the faces of the aficionados of this genre after they'd shelled out their five bucks to discover that *Robocop* was a literate, intelligent, even witty parody not only of this type of film, but of its audience, modern society, the Reagan administration, twentieth century fears and paranoia, and a lot of other nice things as well. Imagine the expression on *my* face as I practically danced out of the movie theatre. Unfortunately, rumours have been afoot lately that people—and no one has been terribly specific as to which ones—have plans in the works for a sequel to this gem. Sequels being what they are, my only advice to you is to stick the original in the old VCR, curl up, and wait for the whole thing to blow over. There are worse ways to pass the turn of the century.

9. THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GARP: George Roy Hill directed. Robin Williams starred. John Lithgow appeared as a transsexual ex-football player. Glenn Close appeared as Williams' mother, a sexual suspect. Based on a novel by John Irving. Do I really need to say anything more?

10. ZELIG: It was extremely difficult to decide which one of the Woody Allen films released during this decade—a body of work that included *The Purple Rose of Cairo*, *Hannah and Her Sisters* and *Radio Days*, as well as a few unmitigated turkeys—belonged on this list; possibly most of them did. I finally chose *Zelig*, however, simply because it was the one that took the most chances and required the most work on the part of the viewer. A "documentary" on the life of Zelig, a man so obsessed with fitting in that he literally takes on the physical and mental characteristics of whatever person or group he approaches (when with a group of African Americans, he becomes an African American; with a group of Jews, he becomes a Jew, and so on), the film employs amazingly well-crafted "newsreel footage", doctored photographs, "scientific materials" and all manner of devices, not one of which looks contrived, although they all easily might, to tell its story. Like Zelig himself, the film is a chameleon of sorts—it functions as a very black comedy, if that's the way you see it; a study in film techniques and tricks, and a comment on both alienation and conformity—quite a feat in a rather short movie without one second of wasted footage. *Zelig*, perhaps because of its peculiar nature, was never quite as celebrated as some of Allen's other work, but it numbers among his best, and most challenging.

Okay, I did it and I'm glad, and if there's a just and merciful God I won't have to do it again for another ten years. Actually, glancing back over the list (which also might have included, just by the way, *Amadeus*, *Witness*, *Stand By Me*, *Cross Creek*, *River's Edge*, *Good Morning*, *Viet Nam*, and a couple of others), it wasn't such a bad decade, after all, now was it? And with things like *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Roger and Me* and *Glory* in our future, perhaps the 90's won't seem quite so bleak either. Perhaps it will even be a decade upon which we someday look back fondly. Perhaps...

Excuse me. My call to the Rev. Sharpton just went through.



THE FISHING HOLE

by Joe Lane

Over the years since the founding of the underground press many ideas, groups, papers and trends have risen and fallen. One such type of organization that is apparently needed today is a national Underground Press Syndicate. This would be a group for newspapers, magazines and zines that would share stories so that small staffs at various zines could still put out a reasonable amount of news without having to have a large staff to cover the stories.

The original Underground Press Syndicate was formed back in 1966 as a non-profit association of five papers: The East Village **OTHER**, the Berkeley **BARB**, the San Francisco **ORACLE**, the Los Angeles **FREE PRESS** and the **PAPER** (East Lansing). The UPS eventually had some 671 member papers carrying their logo in stories on riots, drug laws and news from soldiers in the battlefields of Vietnam.

Members of UPS, under its organizational set-up, sent copies of their papers to each member paper and member papers had automatic reprint rights from all other UPS members.

The purposes of UPS were to see that the papers came out. It helped start papers, get national advertising into them, and gave legal advice and publicity to the papers.

The UPS organized the microfilming of papers, so that many libraries now have permanent copies of local and national papers such as the Chicago **SEED**, the **BARB**, etc. Indiana University in Bloomington, for example, has several hundred reels of these papers from 1966-1975.

To join the UPS, papers had to send a $25 fee, honor the rule about sending copies to each member, and also send 10 copies to UPS for microfilming, advertising and publicity purposes.

UPS was generally like the Associated Press in much of its organization and activities. It sponsored conferences where member papers sent writers and editors to share ideas and experiences. UPS did readership surveys to find out what readers liked, disliked and how the papers could better serve the readers.

The name of UPS was later changed to the Alternative Press Syndicate in 1973. "Underground" was a word that members felt was detracting from their attempts at being accepted by the society it meant to serve.

Through the most productive years of UPS/APS the organization was guided by Tom Forcade, the founder of **HIGH TIMES**.

At the same time the UPS was finally gaining a major following, Ray Mungo and Marshall Bloom formed the Liberation News Service. This organization, originally based in Washington DC, acted as a servicing organization for news stories. That is, it sold news, comics, and anything else that staff members could produce, to over 300 underground and overground papers for $15 a month for three weekly packages by mail. A typical packet might include photos of a recent riot, a story about a history professor burning a flag in class to discuss whether he was burning a piece of cloth or a symbol of America, editorial cartoons on the upcoming Chicago Democratic Convention and a plea from the Yippies for all the heads to visit it.

Bloom had been the editor of the college paper **EMHERST STUDENT** and head of the United States Student Press Association while Mungo edited the Boston University **NEWS**. In late fall 1967 the two started LNS and soon rented a large building—in fact, it was so large that it eventually housed several movement groups including the Washington **FREE PRESS** and a junior high school underground monthly called the **GORDON FREE NEWS.**

At one point I.F. Stone, muckraker at large, warned the LNS founders that LNS shouldn't ever become the mouthpiece of the Students for a Democratic Society. But after a move to New York, the LNS staff swelled with members of the SDS. So Bloom and Mungo liberated their own news service and took it to Massachusetts while the SDS members of the staff were watching a Beatles film put on as a benefit for the LNS, according to Ray Mungo's book **FAMOUS LONG AGO: MY LIFE AND TIMES WITH THE LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE.**

Stripped of everything that wasn't nailed down, the empty office was left for an angry staff to find. After discovering the new address, the SDSers tried by force to retrieve the printing press which was the most vital part of the service. Even beating up the founders of the LNS wasn't enough to get the press back and until February 1969 there were two versions of LNS. The founders finally gave up, though, and the other LNS continued to service members until late 1981 when there were not enough subscribers to finance even their shoestring budget.

During its heyday the LNS even serviced a small mimeographed high school paper called **QUACK** that averaged four pages an issue and yet got enough news to put out a paper ten times that size.

That was then...In my next column I hope to outline current press organizations, although right now there is no substantial press service that zines can financially afford and get rapid national news reports from. Hopefully mentioning these organizations from the past will encourage someone to come along and organize another LNS or UPS.

Any press organizations reading this are requested to send me information on their group. I'd also like to hear from any zine editors involved in such organizations. You can write me at PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083.

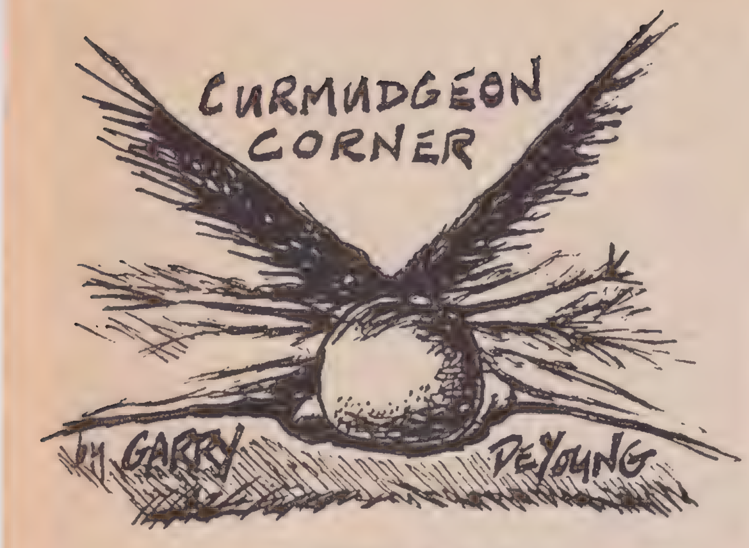
DRUMMER BOY
by Mary Wallitt De Young

A new book about the adventures of one of Mrs. De Young's ancestors, Henry Wood, who fought in the Civil War as a member of the Union's 121st New York Volunteer Regiment, from 1862 to 1865, Antietam to Richmond.

The book includes Wood's own autobiographical narrative as well as a host of supporting material, from Army songs to newspaper accounts.

This 362-page softbound book is available directly from DeYoung Press for $13.50 postpaid.

De Young Press
PO Box 7252
Spencer, IA 51301-7252



AMERICA IS A LIE

by Garry De Young

America is a lie, a whopper of a lie and those who can't see through it are doomed by their stupidity.

My views of the American legal system, which has not one damned thing to do with justice, are well known. As well known are my views of the absolutely corrupt and manipulative political system which has been taken from the American people and captured by the corporate PAC system.

Our congressmen and senators do *not* represent us, not by a long shot. In fact, here in Iowa's Sixth District, which runs from Sioux City to Mason City, I am the only de-factor Representative of the people. I am the only candidate who ever truly want out and talked to the people and have grappled with them with their (my) problems. But the massive power of the Establishment media coupled with the power of the banking "agribusiness complex" is simply overwhelming.

There not only is no free speech in America (except for the puppets confronting us daily on the television screen, over the radio and in our big city newspapers), but on the contrary, people with ideas and insights not acceptable to the prevailing one party corporate system are effectively suppressed.

We are governed by a permanent congress where 99% of incumbents are re-elected, these incumbents representing our one-party Capitalistic system with two candidates, Republican and Democratic, each being neither democratic nor republican in nature.

The most repressive of these two factions of the capitalistic parties is paradoxically that faction known as the Democratic Party. The conservative faction on the other hand is the more liberal when it comes to providing free speech opportunities.

The background of this paradox follows:

Because of the fear of being branded "left wing" or "liberal" we often find the more truly liberal elements within the Republican Party where it is "safe" to express liberal rhetoric in guised language.

For this reason there are many liberals within the Republican Party.

Conversely, because of the same factors, many who are truly repressive and ultra right wing end up in the Democratic Party where they can "hide" their true sentiments and pretend to a liberalism "with responsibility".

The net result of all this is that within each sector of this one Capitalist Party there are those who emerge to serve the interests of the corporate ideal, that ideal being to subvert the Constitutional guarantees of the people in exchange for their total claim to power.

This of course means that there is no dialogue permitted in either party, or elsewhere.

We talk about uprisings in Romania and in Panama, as well as elsewhere in the world, yet right here in American the people are the most docile, the most easily led and misled by those entrenched with power as much as leaders in the Eastern bloc, the difference being the sophisticated nature of the control, the very tight control, a control demanded now by the people themselves with such potential tyrants as drug czar William Bennett and his repressively fascistic mode of thought and behavior.

We are "permitted" to have our innocuous protests providing we don't step on the grass or spit on the sidewalk.

Actually, Americans are very much law-abiding in nature, this attitude being the result of twelve years of indoctrination in our public schools which place a great premium on not tossing a piece of paper out of the car window (in Washington, DC, the fine for this is $1,000!) and at the same time teaching our kids that they must not be "extremist"—setting the stage for complacency and the forgiveness of wrongdoing, so long as the wrongdoer is a good God-fearing Christian.

All of this is background, just a tiny part of that massive background of conditioned nationalism coupled with a perceived unbridled capitalism.

The propaganda barrage is not only overwhelming, it is filled with outright lies, carried to us by the lying messengers such as Tom Brokaw, the MacNeil/Lehrer yes men and the skillful opinion columnists and comedians such as *The Capitol Gang* and their ilk.

We have our permanent Congress and we have our permanent "foreign policy experts" who are called upon whenever we have a crisis, usually a crisis brought about by these leaders imposed upon us by the corporate thieves.

These "experts" are invariably those who fled some other country and are now professors in some college or university, usually a Catholic college such as Georgetown University.

We are always treated to the "expertise" of the White House criminals, Nixon, Kissinger, Brezhinsky and Ford—the crook who pardoned the crook and now gets honoraria to speak to other crooks at Rotary and Kiwanis gatherings. it figures that this crook was also a Boy Scout.

Never can the media come up with an expert on foreign affairs who can even speak English and they are almost invariably Roman Catholic (of course)! Why is this? Can't our colleges produce foreign policy experts?

More background. Now let's get to the meat of things.

We bombed civilian (ghetto) areas of Panama in order to capture Noriega, a man who was set up in the drug business by the CIA when George Bush was the Director of that agency, with the blessing of our House and Senate intelligence committees.

I'm not into drugs. It's just not my bag. But if George Bush is part of that scene and if Jolly Ollie North and Deniability Chief Poindexter and the military people, state department people and all those other crooks were involved, then the very least the American people can do is hold massive protests demanding that these people too, *including especially* President George Bush, also be brought to trial.

This nonsense of setting up a dictator and then when he fails to serve our purpose set up a puppet government which cannot hold control without our strong support, military, economic and diplomatic, and then upon failing to obtain the results it seeks then goes and invades that country, set up its own puppet government and then tries to con us with the whopper that this government has called for our support, must consider us the most innocent dupes on the face of the earth.

Yes, if we *really* are looking for an honest government then we must go all the way and call for the resignation of both George Bush and his sidekick Dan Quayle *and every other member of the House and the Senate.*

You then ask, "But who will run the government?"

It really makes no difference because this government today is *not* functioning in our behalf at all. It is the handmaiden to the Trilateral Commission which has given America away to the Japanese and West Germans.

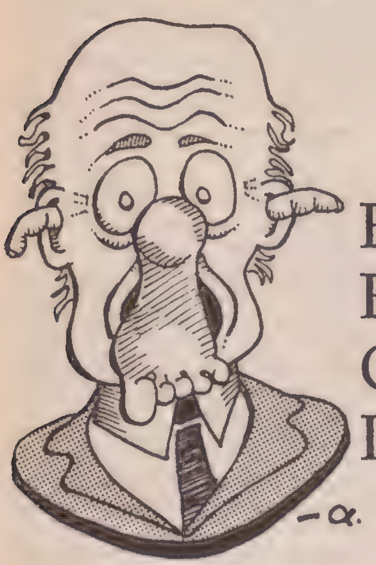
Since we have been betrayed by these forces of Trilateralism, making our money worthless, creating endless homeless people because they cannot make the terribly expensive mortgage or rent payments, since we no longer even make a pretense about giving one good damn about our citizens' *right* to free medical and dental care, the *right* to a decent place to live, the *right* to a fair legal system, we may now ask for help from those countries who have seen the folly of our political system, such as the Japanese, who ask, "When you say 51% of the people determine the outcome of an election, what about the other 49%—aren't they represented in your Congress?" To which we must shyly reply, "No".

I have no representative in Congress. Never have had.

The Democratic, Republican, Socialist and other parties are bankrupt and have nothing to offer, What we need today is a totally new form of government, a government which *includes* instead of *excluding*.

Since childhood I have always been an *outsider* and I think now is the time to make the Kissingers, the Doles and the Bushes those on the outside looking in—unless they are in jail, where they belong and from *that* vantage point they can be the new insiders.

(Garry may be reached at PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252)



E X P E R I O D D I C A

by Bob Grumman

This installment of my column is going to be rather self-indulgent, for its main subject will be the Runaway Spoon Press, which you steady readers of **USA TODAY** will know is the one-man press I run out of Port Charlotte, Florida (over $100 in sales in 1989, and still expanding!) During November and the first week of December I printed 9 new titles, and I just can't wait to let people know about them. And I figure that if I'm going to be guilty of conflict of interest, I might as well shoot the works, and advertise ALL 36 of my press's offerings. It won't really be that much of an indiscretion. For one thing, the artists I publish are the same ones I'd be writing about here, anyway. The world of experioddica isn't large, and by now RASP seems to have captured almost all of its inhabitants as authors or illustrators or preface-writers. Besides, I will also discuss non-RASP works.

At the same time, I will surreptitiously add an installment to this magazine's *Why Publish?* section by telling you how and why I'm a publisher, A main reason is to get on record as a part of the culture of my time. A bid for immortality, in other words. But there is also a practical side to it: to get some rant or poem on record is a way of turning it over to paper that can restate or redeclaim it for you while you go on to other things. A further plus is the increased feedback that should therefore result. Indeed, feedback—or the ideas and art of others in return for mine—is probably as big a reason as any for my efforts to get into print.

Al this, of course, has to do with *self*-publication. But I use RASP to print a lot of other work besides my own. Why? Well, as a way of joining a worthwhile Cause—and helping other artists I admire find an audience. But also simply to enjoy the intimate contact with those others' work that can come from re-typing it, laying it out, or otherwise becoming publishingly involved with it. There are other reasons, too, some of them careerist. None of those are major, though—I hope.

In any event, I started my press in the summer of 1987 six or seven months after an inheritance had allowed me to buy a Xerox copier. I had on hand an illustrated children's book for adults that I'd put together ten or more years before and always thought worthy of publication, despite the contrary opinions, *form* opinions, of the commercial publishers I'd sent it to, so I decided to use my copier to publish an edition of it. The book was **A StryngeBook**. When it came out, Mike Gunderloy declared in print that it was "a strange book indeed." He also said that it was "(g)reat fun to read, with a few cryptically-spelled words and intriguing line drawings on every page, and a rather nice moral."

I quote my æditor's words not only because they're eminently accurate but because I'm the kind of clown who enjoys the idea of pulling a fast one. Mike is now paying his staphers, you see, and the payment is based on word count, so now he has to pay me for his own words! Hey, if I *really* wanted to take ad van tage I could star t break ing my words up ex peri odd ically and really make bigBucks. But just toshow I'magoodguy, I'llnow experioddically reversemy shadytactic. Okay, we're back to fair—if wasting so many words on this kind of frivolity is fair.

Since publication, **A StrayngeBook** has sold almost 60 copies, and been reviewed some ten or twelve times. A hot item, in other words. But I had an ad rejected for it! That was a jolt: the first time I'd ever had something I'd written and *paid* to have printed rejected. The rejector was a yuppie mainstream libertarian magazine called **REASON**. My book was in part an attack on censorship, so I thought **REASON** would not only be pleased to let me advertise it on its pages but might even review it. No way. I managed to get ads for **A StrayngeBook** into a few other magazines, though, but only the ad in **THE NATION** produced any sales (5, I think). Advertising in the mainstream press hasn't worked for me.

After publishing **A StrayngeBook**, I decided to do Geof Huth's **wreadings** and then Karl Kempton's **fission**, Huth and Kempton being friends of mine whose work I admire. Both books are collections of what I call "alphaconceptual poems", a term Huth accepts but Kempton deplores.

Alphaconceptual Poetry is poetry whose main effects stem from what its letters (or other "sub-denotative" elements such as punctuation marks—or spaces) do conceptually to its meaning. Thus Kempton, by breaking up the word "sematography" into "se ma to graph y" gets the following messages, among others, into it: see Mother ("Ma") for help in your analytical geometry lesson; observe a man's mother to work out the effect on him of his y-chromosome; consult the Eternal Mother in order to understand (or "graph") the Final Why (y). And Huth's 2-page 2-word sentence, "wuidwhinds myrrhmyrrh" uses spelling to weave Chaucerian England and Bible fragrances and all kinds of other magicks into a description of music.

Speaking of Huth, he is another publisher (as, in fact, most experioddica artists are, including Kempton, the publisher/editor of **KALDRON**). Indeed, Geof's printing escapades have often been chronicled in **FACTSHEET FIVE**, in this column and elsewhere. I bring this up because his press, dbqp, now has a new catalog available which contains reactions to each of dbqp's over 70 products by many of the best underground art commentators around (including ME and Æditor Gunderloy), at their commitedest (whether negatively or positively). It is definitely an arrangement of materials fun, funny and illuminating in itself besides being a serviceable catalog, and is available for an SASE from dbqp, 225 State St. #451, Schenectady, NY 12305.

Huth has also recently printed **ALABAMA DOGSHOE MOUSTACHE #5** (available from dbqp for $3 postpaid) which features 15 rewarding poems mostly visual including a charming collage by Joel Lipman that locates the origin of poetry in magic tricks and magic trick *instructions* blurring through an attic's-worth of puppets, games and toys, multiply-recollected. Poetry not so much as sorcery as *instructions* for sorcery—that really appeals to me.

Among the many other recent dbqp products is a fine collage by Guy R Beining (**HIT BROADSIDE** #12, which is available from dbqp for 50¢ postpaid), which includes a segment of movie film with 8 frames of the back of an unmoving man's head and shoulders, and other representations of halted human meditation out of or against two curt views of a building (I think) in such emphasized perspective the building seems a wooshing metaphor for the rush of time. The near-word, "len", is part of the collage, too, suggesting "lense"—sigh lense, or so goes one of the hundreds of ideas the work can seem to express.

Beining is one of RASP's featured artists, by the way, eight of its titles comprising **Piecemeal**, the press's only multi-volume work so far. **Piecemeal** contains dozens of collages like the one just described, and is ably commented on in three prefaces along the way by Harry Polkinhorn. Polkinhorn also has a RASPwork all to himself, except for its introduction by Dick Higgins: the collage sequence, **Summary Dissolution**. A dislocational narrative of societal and personal breakdown, it lurches through shards of anatomical illustrations, antique musicological diagrams, wood-cuts of maps, recent U.S. postage stamps and the like, until it, but not the aesthcipient, ends on the phrase "yet indefinite".

Five other collage sequences I've published are Miekal And's **The Quotes of Rotar Storch** (with a wonderfully humorous but illuminating surbiography of And as Storch by his longtime friend, Crag Hill), Bern Porter's **Neverends** and **Numbers**, Chris Winkler's **Viscosity Induction**, and Jack Moskovitz's **Artist As Autist**. The black cut-outs and disconnected phrases of Moskovitz's sequence seem fragments of memories rolled like dice over and over again toward some meaning that never materializes, but whose misapproximations build , finally, a patterned Beyond which makes the meaning missed seem no longer important.

The best description of Winkler's collages is the following line from **Viscosity Induction**'s introduction by Jake Berry: "Like waking up baptized in razors and stepping out bloodless." Porter's collages are more playful than Winkler's or Moskovitz's, **Neverends** starting with images of lightning, then fluorescent lamps, and ending with shoes on sale, and wallpaper flowers; **Numbers** constantly knocking the ambience of the purest, most disinterested of Man's symbols against their involvement with supermarket sales, Lotto, and the like.

The Quotes of Rotar Storch is one of my recentest RASPs, and the first that's 11 by 8.5, all the others being a fourth that size. "Experimedia simplexity", is how And describes it. "Oblique" and "red taste", words printed, with other oddities, on the upside-downside-up man's face on its cover would describe it as well. However described, it is an excellent sampling of And's wide-ranging poetry/philosophy/vizlation.

And is also the co-author, with his wife Liz Was, of the RASPbook, **Fluxonyms**. The last of RASP's three books devoted to alphaconceptual poetry, it consists of polysyllabic coinages such as preacheatomenought, which are then unspelled to such chains of fascinating word-neighborings as "preach each ache cheat eat atom tome omen men enough ought".

The books I've been discussing by Beining, Polkinhorn, Moskovitz, And and Porter fit into a category of vizlature (visual art and literature combined) that I call illuscription. Illuscription's vizlational and verbal elements are both significant but more or less separate from each other—or at least not fused, as they are in visual poetry. One other RASPbook I would include in this category is Bill DiMichele's **Capacity X**, which combines cryptic phrases somewhat like those in Polkinhorn's book with line drawings of various X's (as vortex, starfish, crossroads, lilac, bridge, x cetera) which together splash out an interpretation of the poet's vocation as the contra-mathematical multiplication of any unknown's value into infinity rather than its reduction to some final small particular.

My favorite form of vizlature is visual poetry, or poetry whose visual, not orthographic or textual, elements center its metaphors, but so far my press has published only five titles devoted mainly to that genre: Stephen-Paul Martin's **Until It Changes** and **ADVANCINGreceding**, Jonathan Brannen's **Warp & Peace**, my own **An April Poem** and Lloyd Dunn's **Inbetweening**.

Martin's **Until It Changes** is built of blocks of repeated lines of text (four to a block). Every block (except the first) rests on one or more other blocks which have fragments of text in common with it. Thus the block "answeredquestions" rests on the block "boredwithansweredquestions" and that in turn secretes the block "findingthingstogetboredwith". All this slows an aesthcipient's read into see, and know into flow. And charming surprises happen such as the subsequent metamorphosis of "findingthingstogetboredwith" into "thingstoget" into the amusingly oxymoronic "togetherfallingapart"—out of which drops a block of "all" and a block of "gap"—with, of course, a gap between them. These in turn yield two side-by-side blocks speaking of "crumbling walls" and "gaping wounds" which then fuse at their gap into a single block which contains just the word "saga". The burning of Troy, in other words! Or: what petty materialism ("things to get") caused by dead philosophies ("answered questions") might lead to?

Martin's other RASPwork, **ADVANCINGreceding**, carries out a similar flowing development in letters whose subject is more the way the eye works than the way the mind does, for it investigates negative and positive space. Brannen's **Warp & Peace** flows like **Until It Changes**, too, but letter by letter through the phrase "warp & peace" instead of word by word or phrase by phrase through a more extensive narrative. And Brannen's designs have an entirely different kind of visual appeal than Martin's.

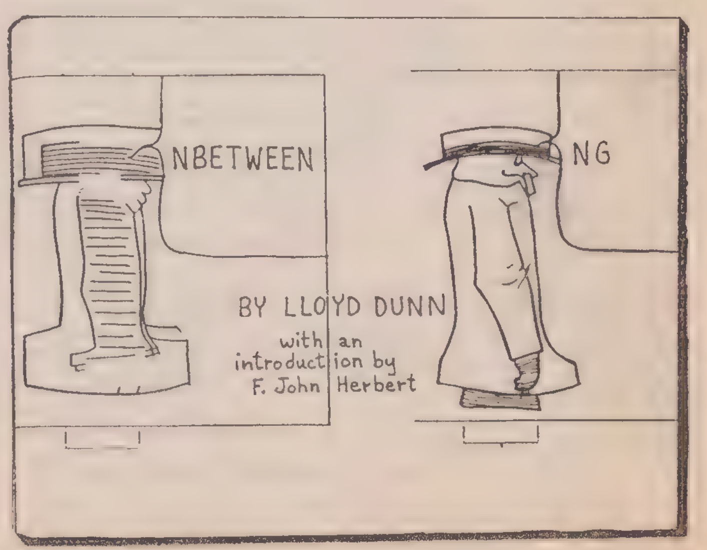
Brannen is also responsible for the RASPbook **Ethernity**, a collection of delicately shaped poems which most people would consider visual poems but which I fastidiously count "visually enhanced textual poems" rather than "visual poems" because their visual elements are tonal rather than metaphoric—or peripheral (though highly effective) rather than central. They work like, and mostly are exquisitely refined versions of, the sensitive lineation (line endings, and beginnings) that is a part of most modern free verse. But wait—I just looked through **Ethernity** again and found several poems whose shaping not only makes metaphors, but *large* metaphors. For instance, a rectangle with just the word "open" in it; a subsequent curve; and the overall ebb-and-flow or back-and-forth shape of the poem "Summer" say fully as much about the shorefront "now after now" or the poem's subject as the poem's flowingly just-right text. So forget its exact category; just call **Ethernity** a lovely group of lyrics.

Before finishing with Brannen, I'd like to call attention to a collection of his called **Approaching the Border** (available for $13 from the Konglamerati Press, PO Box 5001, Gulfport, FL 33737). It is one of the most beautifully printed books of poetry I've ever come across: paper of the finest grade, for instance, and pale yellow lines making unobtrusive but appropriately gentling frames around each page's text. But it would be just another example of boutique press merchandise if not for its content, which is—well, let me quote just one short sample: "lit/gh/ /lit/gh/ /little/ghosts". Distorted light flickering partway into being, then out, then partway back, then out; whereupon: little ghosts. But also the flicker of words into and out of litness, and the visualization of silence, and much else for a properly RAPSized mind.

My own **An April Poem** uses the dot of an "i" as an opening into a haiku-memory of some forsythia's shielding two children from a rainstorm (and, at a dollar, is RASP's cheapest book, except for its catalog, which is only 45¢ in stamps). The last of RASP's visual poetry selections, Lloyd Dunn's **Inbetweening**, is a collection of outtakes from a video he made of, among other things, the growth, letter by letter, of the word..."inbetweening". The strategy behind the sequence is simple enough: a letter is shown, then distorted in steps until it changes into the next letter of "inbetweening". The joy of the book for me, though, is not its strategy, but the wit and freshness of each tactical maneuver by which that strategy is carried out. For instance, an E gives up 3-dimensionality in making its change; and a W becomes first a white, then a gray, square, on its way to becoming another E—which in turn slides away to reveal a twin rather than changes into it—which might sound minor but in context seems wonderfully fresh.

Yikes. According to my computer's word-count, I've come to the end of my column without having discussed all the books RASP has done—nor even a tenth of the nonRASP books I was going to treat. They'll all have to wait till my next column, I guess.

Note: all the RASPbooks mentioned in this column (except for **A StrayngeCatalogue** and **An April Poem**) can be purchased for $3 apiece from RASP, PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949.


NBETWEEN
NG
BY LLOYD DUNN
with an introduction by F. John Herbert

CONSPIRACY CORNER

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

★★★★★

C_____ and I spent the day in McDonough, Georgia, as extras in a Johnny Cash movie called *The Baron,* in which we were spectators at a pool exhibition. They didn't complete the filming, so we have to go back at a later (as yet undetermined) date.

★★★★★

Today's date: 7 August 1984
Yesterday's date: 6 August 1984

★★★★★

No work today. T_____'s becoming unpredictable. Of course J_____, for whom he allegedly works, is always getting confused and going wild about one thing or another. Unless he understands exactly what is going on, he develops an hysterical theory and goes charging into action at once. So there's no telling how long the job with T_____ will go on or how dependable it will be.

So I'm going to try to get it together to go to Action Labor tomorrow—though without an alarm clock that'll be hard.

★★★★★

I write something like that Forget-About-Jesus rap and everyone attempts to examine my religious beliefs, to which I say: "Five Pounds of Flax!"

Actually, I think that probably before Abraham was, I Am. (i.e., that perhaps consciousness is intrinsic to materials, inherent in the molecules or atoms or energy)

Other than that, I don't believe in God. Nor do I think anyone's metaphysical beliefs are anyone else's business—and I wish everyone (particularly the Jesus freaks) would keep their opinions to themselves, and just pray for me, in secret, if they must worry about what I believe.

When I write something like that it is as explicit as I care to make it. If I wanted to presume to define the nature of the Unknowable for you, I would. Theology is a debate among learned academicians over who to frame for creating reality. I don't blame anyone.

One elusive point for anyone who is ready for it is that life is beautiful without messiahs—a point that Preston Harold said in **THE SHINING STRANGER** Jesus himself was trying to make—in the tradition of Samuel, who wouldn't become King of Israel (probably).

If I had to pick a religion, it would be Taoism. All value in what Jesus said was destroyed by the priests and their magic (Of course, had I been raised in China...), who decided to emphasize the irrelevant and ignore the anti-colonialist ideology in the Gospels. They've been so successful the very name of Jesus is tainted with abysmal superstition, so that if you try to salvage such truths as that he wasn't a moralist, etc., people just pass over it—those reading it thinking it is heresy and those who would understand it preferring, understandably, not to read it because it is about Jesus.

I'm tired of people who talk about Jesus. I think we'd all be better off if more people developed secular mentalities—without necessarily acting like 19th century materialists, either.

Anyway—long live page 212 of **QUOTATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN MAO!**

★★★★★

I hate to have to stoop to write anything like that rap I just wrote. It is like trying to explain a joke. Yesterday, though, I actually was being quizzed about my opinion of the great Tao that cannot be named.

★★★★★

This I believe: Every human being is—either because of evolution or an innate way of nature—born into this world with an enlightened consciousness that is curious, loving, ecstatic, freedom-loving and erotic, and that early social conditioning obliterates and fractures it. Then every so often, by one method or another, an individual either survives this conditioning almost without scars or manacles one way or another to recover partial Unconditioned Being—at which time they are declared either saints or lunatics, depending upon their relationship with the society in which they find themselves. Jesus was declared both. That controversy was interesting for a couple of thousand years, maybe.

★★★★★

C_____ (or C_____'s mind controller) says that my actual opinions are infuriating to those in power so I should allow everyone to lie about what they are.

Why?

So the people in power can remain unchallenged in their authority? So that a class war can be prevented and we can also eventually suggest abolition of government?

How can I ascertain that it isn't the masses, instead of the authorities, who are being deceived about what I say? And of course, like I said, I've no way of telling whether or not that is just the opinion of my son's mind controller anyway.

★★★★★

No direct communications are allowed about anything relevant between me and anyone else. (Most of the indirect communication is also irrelevant, but that's another matter.) If I begin to establish direct communication I'm called a paranoid or I'm screamed at, etc. Or I'm harangued (in the case of Glen Duncan) until I'm so tired I cannot wait for it to end.

I can understand why. How do you talk to somebody with a surveillance arsenal attached to them without endangering yourself by admitting you realize it is there? The point, though, is it leaves me in an epistemological quandary. I'm unable to ascertain the source of any data—even data about the sources of previous data comes in the form of cryptic blind assertions. There is no connecting point between the plainly acknowledged world and the obviously present technocracy that is only vaguely described in cryptic hints.

For all I know, *everyone* I talk to *could* be an unconscious victim of mind control unaware of the canted meanings of what they say. *All* my discussions in cant *could* simply be dialogues with mind controllers in a distant laboratory. If not, things are so much in that direction and of that nature that I am equally as much at a loss as to what to believe, who to trust, etc.

So when people are insulted because I don't need their advice I can only assume they are unaware of my situation anyway. When this advice is so personal as to be rude or when it is coupled with threats or bribes, in lieu of arguments that conform to logical laws, then I am all the more inclined to disregfard it.

★★★★★

I don't want to be told how to crawl "home". I want you to kill all the people who manipulate human relations in order to create artificial scarcities in them so as to keep us under their control, or I want you to shut up about the subject. In the words of the song, I believe in the hereafter: "If you're not here after what I'm here after you'll be here after I'm gone". And I'm here after natural rights and human liberty for as many of us as possible.

★★★★★

Let me see if I can describe this Conspiracy (called "That" in cant) as accurately as possible in terms of a representation that was presented to me in the Krystal today, on P'tree near 10th.

A young (presumably) Chinese guy who looks like a puzzled Jerry Wingate in a Communist Anarchist (black and red) t-shirt with two ideograms in a circle—signifying confusion about ideogrammatic communication or the lack ot it—with "Karate" (signifying the monetary sources that support my family or people's kin in general) inscripted in such a way as to indicate a belief that it is in an extremely anti-authoritarian political position, whereas actually it isn't.

Also round-rimmed gold-glitter glasses, signifying he is thinking about gold-based monetary mutualism as espoused by Robert Anton Wilson (almost).

My commentary: in the first place, this is no time to be plotting a Communist Anarchist Revolution. Our first step is to expose the racist conspiracy behind the Vietnam War and to determine who the wealthy owners of absentee agricultural land are in nations where people are starving. Our American working class is much too alienated to be capable of the cooperation needed for communalism. And any attempt to topple the government without adequate cultural preparation will only result in rule by a military junta that will step in afterwards to restore order.

Moreover, the Morgan gold money conspiracy isn't anti-authoritarian. It is an extremely conservative or fascist rightist movement that does, however, support Communist Anarchism and Populism as alternatives to Bolshevist Dictatorship. Principally, though, it is opposed to the U.S. government, which, being a corrupt mess anyway, it is hard to support—although I see no alternative to an attempted restoration of the original Republic and the Bill of Rights in particular—as a first step in the direction of creating "a new society in the hulk of the old order", as the IWW was once attempting.

That freedom to organize that the First Amendment would guarantee is necessary first, though. Trying to organize like this—with canted communications under the noses of technocratic Big Brother—is impossible.

(to be continued)

[Æditor's note: The previous installment of this work appeared in FF33. Kerry Thornley may be reached at PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307)

VIDEO
SAGAN ©1989

Videos for review may be either sent to the Æditor or directly to Belka Stamas at 1218 S. 11th, Philadelphia, PA 19147. Inquire before sending Beta format tapes. Please send all information on alternative TV programs for NTSC CYBERBEAT directly to Belka.

★★★★★

BLOODY MESS AND THE SKABS ($15 "or trade for weird, bizarre or sexual videos" from PO Box 9021, Peoria, IL 61614): Flanked by TV news coverage front and back, most of this tape is live performances (5 of them) by Bloody and his outrageous punk band. They do all their biggest hits, songs like "Punk Pulpit" and "Nigger" and "Cigarette on the Clit"—clearly, if you're socially sensitive, you'll want to avoid this tape. There are also backstage scenes and some chatting with Bloody at home, including one scene in which he masturbates with a rubber alligator. Offense is a way of life for some people, I guess. The technical quality is uneven, with the splices between film being especially awkward, but the sound is up to the blasting, sloppy punk rock that the Skabs purvey. (MG)

★★★★★

DEATH COMES RIPPING (JD Babylon, 7329 Oak Dr., Glendora, CA 91740): This black comedy is a good watch. If you consider bad cinema high art, this 20 minute short is a candidate for the Louvre. The acting, pace, cinematography and purposely bad dialogue contribute to an enjoyable story. I only wish the budget would have included a blank gun that works. (BS)

★★★★★

DOCTOR DEATH ($12 from Webster Colcord, PO Box 40347, Portland, OR 97240-0347): A twenty-minute postnuclear splatter feature. There's some plot flavor of *Mad Max* here, with Doctor Death barreling down the road in a school bus and attacking people. But the police and the zombies both get on his trail, and things look bleak. Fortunately (?) there are still plenty of unexploded nukes laying about, enabling the Doctor to bring the cyborg cop to a fitting conclusion. The limited budget shows, but the SFX are still fun; the four of us watching this found the whole thing hilarious. Colcord has done quite a bit with available resources, and I'd rather watch this than an awful lot of more "commercial" films. (MG)

★★★★★

THE FILMS OF Y. TOM YASUMI ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #13624): Eight short features down while Yasumi was at the UCLA Animation Workshop. Mostly wordless (though there are background noises), they tell human stories, often in symbolic, exaggerated fashion. "The Wild Bus" is perhaps the best thing here, a slapstick drive to work in the morning. "Beyond the Z Quad" explores the nature of freedom for a beer-bellied college student. Yasumi works with extremely simple drawings, with a style that gets a bit old after a while—the hour on this tape is about as much as I could stand. (MG)

★★★★★

FIRE ENVELOPE (Kirk-O-Matic, 4803 Timberline Dr., Austin, TX 78746): This is a 30 minute collection of Kirk Hunter music videos. Some of the clips are done in traditional Kirk-O-Matic style where layers of images, superimposed and distorted, sync up to the soundtrack. These songs gall into the 60's retro or synth pop mode. Some other tunes Kirk's set to visuals are more of a folky nature, whether the performer is taped in a "live studio" situation. As usual with Kirk, it's a nice job. (BS)

★★★★★

THE MICHAEL ROCKEFELLER STORY & 3 other shorts ($15.98 from Judy Pokras, PO Box 1598, Stuyvesant Stn., New York, NY 10009): The opening piece is a sort of punk documentary, an interview with David Rockefeller's son who got fed up with being part of the upper crust and is now a struggling performance artist somewhere on the East Side. It features both interview, concert and performance footage, and presents a picture of one rather alienated young man. The other three features—*Hot, Cold, Etc.*, *Animal Magnetism*, and *Self Portrait*—are all much shorter, five minutes tops, and would serve well to fill in blank spaces on innovative video shows. They feature enigmatic camera work and sounds, with Animal Magnetism being a song performed by the now-defunct band Communism. Very experimental looking, artistic stuff. (MG)

★★★★★

MARK NAFTALIN'S BLUE MONDAY PARTY #1 ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #12718): The Blue Monday is a weekly blues show which Naftalin hosts in a small, intimate club setting. This is an excellent recording of one such night—the sound, video and production are easily up to PBS standards, with clean editing and good camerawork—featuring John Lee Hooker and Charlie Musselwhite. Even if you're not a special fan of the blues you'll probably find this a soothing tape; blues mavens, of course, will love it. (MG)

★★★★★

THE POOR MAN'S JAMES BOND STRIKES AGAIN ($39.95 from Atlan Formularies, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): The second tape from Kurt Saxon, publisher of **THE SURVIVOR** is even more fun that the first one. It starts off with something completely different, as kindly old balding Uncle Kurt takes you into the kitchen, and shows you how to make...sprouts. He also covers thermos cookery and three-grain pancakes, as well as the construction of a simple food dryer. But don't worry, it's not all culinary skills. Kurt also builds a bomb out of some odds and ends (including 160 book matches and two quarts of gasoline) which makes a fairly impressive fireball. He demonstrates the making of the "fang", a device to deliver poison into your opponent, and the extraction of nicotine to put into it. There's also a simple smoke bomb that ought to clear any room. Try too much of this at home and you might end up (like Kurt) shy a few fingers. But with proper caution, this sort of thing can be a lot of fun. (MG)

★★★★★

TERROR OF TINY TOWN ($14.95 from Video-SIG, 1030-C E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086; order #13760): Many of you have undoubtedly heard of this. For the others, it's a classic (1938) Western, with musical interludes—distinguished by the fact that it has a cast made up entirely of midgets. There's cattle rustling and a crooked sheriff and a good guy and a bad guy and a pretty girl and all the other cliches. For me, one of the high points was trying to figure out where this was filmed; I'm betting on Hopetown, just a few miles from where I grew up (and not all that far from the hills where Charlie Manson used to hang out, but that's another story). The print is a bit choppy at the start and end, but fine in the middle. Or at least as fine as the ludicrous material allows it to be. (MG)

VIDEO NOTES

- **California Newsreel** (149 9th St. #420, San Francisco, CA 94103) is a non-profit film distribution gorup. Their "Black Africa Emerges" catalog contains half a dozen films about African-American history, while the "South American Media Center" catalog is a selection of anti-apartheid films. You can get either catalog for the asking.
- **Drift Distribution** (83 Warren St. #5, New York, NY 10007) handles a variety of avant-garde literary videos, on both rental and sales basis. This includes works from Leslie Thornton and Steve Fagin.

•**Fry's Incredible Inquiry** (HC76, Box 2207, Garden Valley, ID 83622) carries a number of videos from well off the beaten path. These include ones on miracles, UFOs, how to triple your memory and intelligence, South American mysteries, and so on. Their catalog should be available for a couple of stamps.

•**Intermedia Arts** (425 Ontario St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414) is a nonprofit arts center that distributes a number of videos on Native American issues, social justice, and contemporary arts, among other subjects.

•**The Music Video Collector** (J. Rochet & Associates, Box 127, 114-41 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11375) is a catalog of commercial music videos for sale. You can get a copy of this 42-page catalog for $2.95.

•**TRINITY SQUARE VIDEO** (172 John St., 4th Fl., Toronto, ONT, M5T 1X5)is an artist-run video access center with membership fees starting at $150 per year for individuals. They have a great deal of equipment available for studio or mobile use, and offer instruction in how to do neat things with it. Looks like a well-established group, judging by the PR I've seen.

•**VIDEOWAVE** is a cable TV show which airs on Manhattan Cable, Paragon Cable and QPTV, and has been running since 1982. They're looking for short tapes (under five minutes) from video artists they can interview on the show. Tapes (with return mailer & postage) can be sent to either Alan Abramowitz (producer) or Judy Pokras (Interviewer) at Video Wave, PO Box 571, Peck Slip Station, Brooklyn, NY 10272. They prefer 3/4 inch tape, but 1/2 inch is acceptable too.

•**Mike Wiss** (5327 Reed Pl., White Bear Lake, MN 55110) and some friends have started an independent music show on their local public access channel. They spin records and show any and all videos they can get their hands on from indie bands.

NTSC CYBERBEAT

by Belka Stamas

"I don't know about art, but I know what I like." This is one of my favorite quips Lux Interior croons on The Cramps "Smell of Female" album; it's the first line of the song "Gorehound". Loaded lyrics often cause a surge of envy for any writer that spends hours doodling in a notebook, hoping that an accidental jotting will project into something concrete, something that can be considered original. Where do these people get such fodder for imagination? Obviously, they have a personal relationship with God.

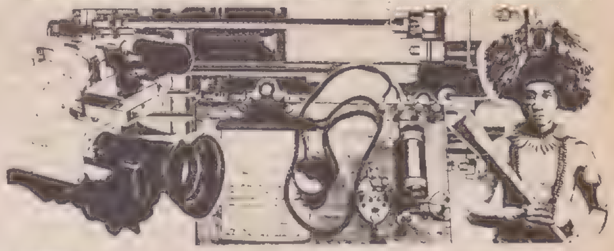
Recently I've been on a Victor mature kick and since "Sampson and Delilah" was checked out at the video store, I picked up a copy of "I Wake Up Screaming", a noir genre flick released in 1942 with Mature, Carol Landis and Betty Grable. Landis and Grable are sisters living in New York with ole Vic, the Sheik of Araby himself, promoting Carol's modeling career while falling in love with the spinster sister with the million dollar legs who makes her living as a stenographer. When Vic finally gets Betty alone in the apartment, he makes some sort of high-brow comment about a painting and the response by Grable is: "I don;t know a lot about art, but I know what I like". Which only goes to prove that there's better living through television.

Norm Orschnorschki of "Forced Entry" fame (see FF31) seems to be feeling much the same way. Norm wrote me about the problems he's been having with film festivals, how they'll take your money, promise a screening, and usually deliver nothing. The only exposure he's getting is from alternative cable programs and independent fanzines.

Norm asked if I'd expound a bit on the festival process so readers won't deplete their bankbooks chasing a ghost. I can only give personal experience and feelings generated after investing over $200 in entry fees, hours of filling out entry blanks, and the slow process of walking to the post office with the yellow package-pick-up slips to receive my entry rejections. Looking back on it, I consider it positive.

When my first video was finished, I wasn't fooling myself about "broadcast quality", the writing, the acting, or the soundtrack; but I felt that I had a short that could hold its own with similar works I'd seen screened at a local art house—many, if not all, of these clips were funded and had done extremely well at festivals on local, national and international levels. Considering most decisions are arbitrary when dealing with any form of festival or contest, I researched which festivals would best suit my type of production, then blanketed those bases with the proper formats suggested.

VIDEO REVOLUTION



Embark upon the revolution of the 90's with expansion of your special interest video library. Explore forgotten film classics, historic documentaries, instructional training programs, controversial politics or unseen visual wonderlands using Video-SIG as your navigator. Choose from over one thousand different titles and expand your videotape horizon. Order one tape and receive a copy of our new magazine THE VIDEO COLLECTOR, highlighting new releases from Video-SIG and other alternative videotapes. Order three tapes and receive in addition to the magazine, a copy of THE VIDEO SIG LIBRARY, listing the entire catalog of over one thousand tapes.

Here are some examples of tapes you can order from Video-SIG:

☐ **12701 Channel K**
The producers of Channel K have assembled an outrageous half-hour spoof of television, featuring spots for "Gomer Heil N.A.Z.I" as well as "Bachelor Pad," where Chad Randolph, the king of sleaze, shows single men how to score chicks and save bread at the same time, and "Handy Dan," who turns his workshop into a chamber of horrors as he attempts to build a dog house. 30 minutes.

☐ **13688 San Francisco Talent Vision: Volume 10**
Taped at various San Francisco nightclubs, SFTV showcases some of the new talent from the SF Bay Area. Choosing from over 300 audition tapes, the producers gathered some of their favorite performers for this prime-time cable program which has been in existence since 1983. In this episode, you'll witness the talents of SHOCK EXCHANGE, TOP CAT and THE STICKBAND. 28 minutes

☐ **12717 Percy Mayfield: Poet Laureate of the Blues**
This documentary of singer/songwriter Percy Mayfield includes concert footage as well as interviews. In this program, you'll develop a greater understanding of this man and his music, including the song "Hit the Road, Jack," which he wrote while working exclusively for Ray Charles. This show won a W.C. Handy Award from the the Blues Foundation. 27 minutes.

☐ **14302 The Brain That Wouldn't Die**
A young surgeon has discovered he can keep alive the head of his fiancee, who was tragically decapitated. With the brain of his lover intact, he goes on a search to find "the perfect body" for her. Bizarre entertainment starring Herb (Jason) Evers and Virginia Leith. B&W (1963) 83 minutes

☐ **14218 Hamburgers, Comma, Shoes and Other Stuff**
This exotic little video involves stop-action animation of common household items. Utilizing an adventurous imagination, a camcorder and an original soundtrack, this gem was the winner of the Experimental Category in the Video-SIG Camcorder Contest. This highly recommended tape can be used as a video babysiter again and again. 13 minutes

☐ **13203 Xerox Ventura Publisher**
Enter the world of desktop publishing with this instructional videotape. Throw away that rubber cement and learn how you can use a personal computer to typeset your text, combine graphics with words and compose the style of your text to look like any other slick magazine. 57 minutes

VIDEO PRODUCERS: Do you have any productions that you would like to share with the general public? Let Video-SIG expose your video to a larger audience. We offer a non-exclusive agreement that allows you pursue other markets and receive a 10% royalty on every tape sold. Our emphasis on mailorder distribution allows targeting to specialized markets. For more information, please contact Video-SIG Submissions, Department 963.

SIGN ME UP!! **I want to be a part of the Video Revolution right now!! I'm sending you some money and this is what I want....**

___Tapes @ $14.95 (or 3 tapes for $39 in groups of 3) ________
___copy(ies) of THE VIDEO SIG LIBRARY @ $4.95 (free w/3 tapes) ________
___1-year subscription to THE VIDEO COLLECTOR @ $15.00 (w/1 FREE tape) ________
___sample copy of THE VIDEO COLLECTOR @ $1.95 (free w/any order) ________
California residents add 7% sales tax ________
Shipping and handling ________
TOTAL ________
Method of Payment: ☐ Check/Money order ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard
Card Number ________ Expiration Date ____
Signature ________
NAME ________
ADDRESS ________
CITY ________ STATE ________ ZIP ________

VIDEO Sig
1030-C East Duane Avenue, Dept. 960
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
or Call (800) 245-6717, operator 960

While waiting for the results, I explored other options: the first being alternative television and the second, art-house screenings. Underground TV was fast. Within one month, Trauma TV out of San Francisco sent a card saying I'd been screened and to send anything else I had. That was a feel-good week. I'd also been in touch with 911 Contemporary Arts in Seattle; they had ads in **FILM THREAT** and **THE INDEPENDENT** requesting tapes for a screening at their facility. Alan Pruzan in Seattle wrote back requesting not only my tape, but other indies in Philly so he could produce a group show. I took a classified in the local film club newsletter to see if I could generate any interest. This proved successful.

When organizing the Seattle show, I was quite flattered to be screening with the hodgepodge of experienced producers that responded to the ad. I didn't judge any of the work, just took it on a first-come, first-served basis and as luck would have it, compiled the two hours of shorts required for the group show. After my initial viewings, I was more than pleased by the quality of work and thought the ethnic and genre mix was interesting too: an Asian American, African American, feminist, an old beatnik and two abstract painters combined to create a mixture of experimental, documentary and narrative pieces. It was during this time the rejection slips from the festivals began to accumulate.

I asked the other producers in the show what their experiences had been with festivals. Some had done well, some had never cracked in and some had had limited success, but could not repeat. The gist of their advice was that it's arbitrary. I took this as a law. The quality of these artists on the humane side coupled with their professional experience in either commercial/industrial video or feature length films or stage or academia could not be denied. Although most of their combined works have been purchased by the local PBS station's Independent Acquisition Fund and broadcast, they haven't blazed a trail through the festivals.

The Seattle show got postponed. A group from New York City bumped us back a few months, but this tribe from Manhattan had already been discussing the possibility of a group screening with Alan Pruzan in Seattle for some time. I took this as professionally as possible and waited and finally, in March, the Philadelphia artists were granted a presentation. It went extremely well, especially considering I was coordinating everything through the mail or phone lines. A week after the screening I received a UPS package with all tapes returned, copies of the graphic artwork used for promotional purposes, and comment sheets the audience completed after viewing each short. The only disappointment was the size of the audience, roughly 20 people, and since I'd already been screened on TV, I'd become accustomed to anticipating extremely large numbers of potential viewers. In order to save time I had to make some decisions.

When Norm Orschnorschki wrote, he included a well documented package of letters to the various film festivals stating problems he's had with them, specifically on promised goods never delivered. He has a legitimate gripe, and *yes*, he did receive a variation of the old Jerry Reed song, "She got the goldmine and I got the shaft". However, this is the film business and anyone who has had even limited success is undoubtedly carrying what they used to call "the secret brand" at Gulag. To the best of my knowledge, this is the status quo in all phases of the arts.

From working through the festival system, an art house (not to mention dealing with other art houses which is another column in itself), and underground TV, I decided to concentrate on alternative television and fanzines. Norm stated he had great response and success when using these two resources also. In its current state, alternative TV has not become institutionalized, is not financially motivated (which eliminates the graft), appreciated works with entertainment value, has an extremely large audience of potential viewers and can give you a real kick in the pants when you see your work screened to the general public.

From working with the alternative television community, I received the moral support I needed in the form of broadcasts after spending a sustained amount of time, energy and money on a tedious project. The feedback, both positive and negative, was encouraging and this enabled me to continue pursuing video as my artform of choice and springboarded additional projects in both commercial and non-commercial venues. This is why I choose not to trash the festival process. I've found a place of my own.

SILENT REVOLT! RE-ELECT NOBODY

SILENT REVOLT, RE-ELECT NOBODY BUMPERSTICKERS;$2; You really can regain control over government! Complete info with every order; Be a part of the solution! Order now from: **REVOLT, Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363**

NTSC CYBERBEAT LISTINGS

DDT-TV (Ed Stastny, 9018 Westridge Dr., Omaha, NE 68124): Ed is starting a new show which will feature shorts, cartoons, humor clips, band interviews, political/social commentary and is open to suggestions.

ART? (c/o Covert Music, PO Box 5868, Toledo, OH 43613): A half-hour weekly show aired on TV-48 in Toledo. The show is a video gallery which showcases the works of independent artists. Send tapes on 1/2 inch VHS to producer Kenneth Knab.

TRAUMA TV (PO Box 42405, San Francisco, CA 94142-2405): Trauma TV has a potential viewing audience of over 300,000 and networks on Channel 25 in the Bay Area at 5PM on Thursdays. Producer Victor Ariel designs the program for film/video artists looking for exposure and accepts 3/4 inch, 1/2 inch, or 8mm videotapes.

ACADIANS OPEN CHANNEL (c/o Christopher Cart, False Eye Video, Route 3 Box 210A, Crowley, LA 70526): Chris is having some censorship problems, but is still looking for shorts and keeps broadcasting.

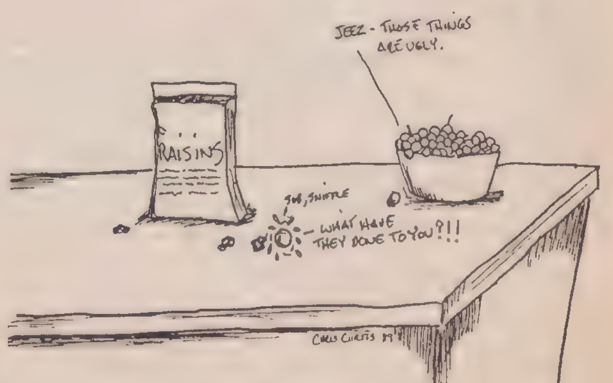
REAL GEORGE'S BACKROOM TV (PO Box 724, Clifton Park, NY 12065): The most complete alternative television show going. Contact George Guarino.

GEORGE MARANVILLE (208 Zandale Dr., Lexington, KY 40503): George is looking for shorts or series to air. A good information source concerning alternative TV and programming.

FILM CRASH (423 Atlantic Ave. #4A, Brooklyn, NY 11217; (718)-643—6085): A regular screening space for indie films which is currently seeking exhibitors. Contact Scott Saunders.

VIDEO VERITE (Attn: Greg Horn, A-TV, the American University, 216 MGC, Washington, DC 20016): A-TV, closed circuit station at American University, is looking for indie and student films & videos. Works should not exceed 15 minuts and must be submitted on 1/2 inch or 3/4 inch tapes only. Schools are welcome to send collections of work.

GRAPE BRUTALITY


JEEZ - THOSE THINGS ARE UGLY.
RAISINS
SOB, SNIFFLE
WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YOU?!!
CHRIS CURTIS 89

AUDIO REVIEWS

Well, thanks to some more help we're pretty well caught up by now. All music received before the January 10th deadline is either reviewed below *or* out with a reviewer for the next issue. If you don't see your release within four months of sending it, please phone me to check on it. We remain committed to reviewing *all* independent music we receive.

Once again I'd like to remind people that we really *want* to print price and ordering info with our reviews, but it really helps if you put a price and address *on* every record or tape.

Reviews below are by pj bellomo (pj), Kevin Byrne (KB), L.J. Cunningham (LJC), Karin Falcone (KF), Tom Gogola (TG), The Æditor (MG), Amy Guskin (AG), Ken Johnson (KJ), Jay Mentes (JM), R. Miller (RM), Cris Elligott Rowles (CER), Carol Schutzbank (CS), Kyle Silfer (KS) and Dina Williams (DW)

★★★★★

1313 MOCKINGBIRD LANE, "Hornet's Nest" b/w "My Hearse (is Double Parked)" (Scarab Records, 564 Park Ave., Albany, NY 12208): "Dedicated to the genius of Bob Gallo", this psychedelic retro-release is loaded with fuzz, sludge guitars, and the sort of organ work which reviewers find it obligatory to call "cheesy". The band sounds like they're having a heck of a good time, and as you can tell from the lyrics, they don't seem to take their homage to the garages all that seriously. (45/MG)

★★★★★

3, "Dark Days Coming" ($6 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Potent fast-paced rock that doesn't let up for a second. Despite their semi-breakneck speed, this 4-piece manages to sound melodic and cheerful while singing about the most depressing things. Their lyrics are emotional and political, a heartfelt screed about the current state of the American electorate and society. The ominous title cut, with its opening line "There's a dark current running through the heartland/Ignorance will define this time" sums it up pretty well. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

555, "Melissa" ($3 from John Six, Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A strange mix of outre music. There's some rock, including the title cut, which is actually sort of cool in a rough way. But there's also recorded messages from the phone company, found sounds and loops, minor noodling, and general experimentation. Dismal in places, dapper in others. (T/MG)

★★★★★

"60 Minutes of Banjo Hell" ($4 from Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rt. 113, Lionville, PA 19353): The title of this one is accurate, at least if you consider hell to be an insipid place. Recorded in low-fi, this has some of the least memorable banjo solos ever, including the worst cover I've heard of "Duelling Banjos" (yes, worse than "Duelling Tubas"). Graham is into trading, so swaps for other tapes of similar properties might work out well. (T/MG)

★★★★★

8TH ROUTE ARMY, "Chernobyl Cookbook" (1 Dimensional records, PO Box 923, Northampton, MA 01060): A single from this band was one of the first bits of music ever reviewed in FF, and I'm happy to see them still around and much matured musically. They play straight-up rock and roll, occasionally slipping towards psychedelia or near hardcore, but never allowing themselves to be pigeonholed in a narrow genre. I loved "All Dead Radio", a hard-hitting complaint about the zombies running the airwaves today. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE ACTION FIGURES, "Slang" ($6 from Horseman Records, PO Box 444, Rockland, DE 19732): Engaging poppy/folky music with some tinges of harder stuff. It's not real cerebral stuff—the lyrics to "Phil's House", for example, are in the good old dumb mode of repeating everything a zillion times—but it's fun. Very melodic and upbeat, without falling into pop cliches. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PIER LUIGI ANDREONI & FRANCESCO PALADINO, "Aeolyca" (Violet Glass Oracle Tapes, 6230 Lexus Ave., Lot 105, Temperance, MI 48182): Ambient gothic-inspired music with an enduring, timeless quality not unlike the music of Eno, Mobelius and Roselius in some of their offerings (especially the album "After the Heat"). A lovely release that exudes a stately dignity while still managing to be warm and welcoming. (T/CS)

★★★★★

ANIMATION FESTIVAL, "A Christmas Festival" (*Trade Only* from Michael Behaviour, PO Box 5833, Winter Park, FL 32793-5833): Having Animation Festival do Christmas songs is a bit like asking Leatherface to do a poetry reading; the result is not going to be what the composer intended. Downbeat gothic space electronic music makes tunes like "Silent Night" and "Jingle Bells" all but unrecognizable. Disturbingly updated songs. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE ANNOYING BUTT-PLUG BROTHERS, "Farewell Concert" (Russ Stedman, 311 1/2 N. Main #301, Mitchell, SD 57301): Sloppy guitar-rock covers of a bunch of hits from other folks: "American Woman", "Cocaine" and "All You Need Is Love" among them. There's also a few that seem to be original, like "Vicky and Her Penis/Vagina Thing". Tucked in the B side are some sort of recorded comedy sketches, including the world's most aggravating sports call-in show. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ANOMALY #1 ($5 from Jake Berry, 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): Ninety minutes of experimental texts and noises gathered by Jake. John Bennett and Bill Shields contribute some of the most normal poetry here, which will warn some of you of the rest. Michael Miskowski, Qwa Digs Never Parish, and others explore the breakdown of language, Music in the Blood presents a choral rendition of a sound poem, and John Eberly bombards us with animal noises. Harry Polkinhorn, Greg Evason, Stacey Sollfrey and Willie Smith are among the other contributors. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DANNY ANTONELLI, "Endless Avenues" (Blacklisted Records, Jarrestr. 80, 2000 Hamburg 60, West Germany): An LP of pensive, shadowy readings with well-orchestrated background music and sounds. Each piece was printed on the album sleeve, which I found helpful because of the unexpected direction of the work. Antonelli weaves poems & stories of contemporary people and/or situations that become slightly warped; such as Pimples, who died from eating too many Henry James novels. (LP/pj)

★★★★★

MURILEE ARRAIAC, "Nevada Justice Squad" (Wounds Patriot Tapes, PO Box 4171, Irvine, CA 92716): Sampled and synthesized madness, all in minor keys and with nasty undertones to it, guaranteed to keep you on edge. It has its moments, coming close to some of the material on Harsh Reality at times. But many of the neo-industrial tracks seem to drag, and overall the tape simply doesn't cohere. An experiment in need of refinement. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ART LEPERS, "Release of Death" ($2.50 from Matt Cornell, Stungus, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): A mix of sounds old, new, and instantly generated. The Art Lepers put together their own quasi-industrial drums, guitars and keyboards with sampled and stolen music and texts from all over. Preachers, classical music, jungle rhythms, dirges...it's all muddled together here. A musical meltdown. (T/MG)

★★★★★

AXEMASTER, "Death Before Dishonor" (581 First Ave., Kent, OH 44240): Energetic heavy metal that pulls out all the stops. It's fuelled by non-stop guitar madness and appropriately bombastic vocals. The title cut is probably the best thing here; although it won't win any prizes for depth, it's got all the power you could ever want. 7 songs in all. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BAH & THE HUMBUGS, "Original Instruments" (Breakfast Communications Corporation, PO Box 176, Paoli, PA 19301): Amusing Christmas rock, recorded live, with piano and guitar featured prominently. I enjoyed the paranoid "Snowmen", "Presents of Mine" (which gets into the real meaning of Chrsitmas) and "The Little Strummer Girl", though it's hard to pick favorites here. This one is going back on my stereo the next time the holidays roll around. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JOHN BARTLES, "Orange Album" (PO Box 288, Springwater, NY 14560): Funky rock music (about half of it recorded by Hermanos Guzanos, a California group we have featured in previous issues) fronted by Bartles' gravelly vocals and bizarre lyrics. "President's Head", about the joys of trepanning the head of state, is a real joy; "Junk Bond Babey", "Alleghenny County" and "Bright Orange Possums" are just weird. There's a psychotic edge to this stuff, a sense that at any moment they could erupt from their semi-jzaay complaceny and turn viciously on the listener. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BASTRO, "Diablo Guapo" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0870): From the ashes of Squirrel Bait comes Bastro. With three of the former band's members, they create hard, fast, pounding music that at times sounds hell-bent, or perhaps more appropriately hell-driven.

Comparisons have been made to Big Black and in places they're valid. The hard drum, scathing guitars and strained vocals are there, but not everywhere. Much improved over the 1988 EP "Rode Hard and Put Up Wet" (LP/LJC)

★★★★★

"BAD BOY" BUTCH BATSON, "Twisted and Bent" (Dutch Boy Records, PO Box 25982, Greenville, SC 29616): A monaural monotonic demo tape. Batson's voice is reminiscent of a frog with severe throat problems, and the minimal guitar backing does nothing to add interest to his songs, which tend towards the more insipid country and rock themes. Indeed, even the best session musicians in the world couldn't add much interest to his voice. A discovery not waiting to happen. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BEARDED WEIRDO, "Minefield Tapdance" (515 N. Cass Ave. #3F, Westmont, IL 60559): I can fill in the gaps of this three-song demo and imagine Bearded Weirdo in a live setting—artless, uncontrolled energy, rendezvousing with Royal Crescent Mob for a funked-up garage band success story college tour. "Letter to Rolling Stone" ("One token left-wing critique/in a rag full of adverts for Chic") addresses those who've since moved on to SPIN with chords borrowed from the Ramones' most famous punk anthem. Effective in a sweaty, naive kina way. I say book 'em. (T/KF)

★★★★★

BELLAS ARTES, "Transition" ($3 from Daniel Triana, 841 2nd Ave., Elizabeth, NJ 07202): Generic mimicry of lukewarm anglo dance-floor fodder, even down to the packaging of this three-song cassette. Counterfeit Joy Division/New Order. You'll swear you've heard it before and you're right. Buy one if you're still buying this stuff—but just to fool your friends. (T/KF)

★★★★★

BIG BOYS, "Wreck Collection" ($7 from Unseen Hand, PO Box 49767, Austin, TX 78765): A 17-song retrospective of this now-defunct Austin band, purveyors of a twisted, hardcore, funky skate rock. There's demos and unreleased songs here, as well as a couple of their best including "History" and the driving "Sound on Sound". Vintage stuff that's aged well. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BIG CHIEF, self-titled (PO Box 7944, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): In the tradition of Mudhoney comes mucky, sludgey grunge from Detroit. "Superstupid" and "Brake Torque", pressed on green vinyl, are about as grungey as it comes. Good work from an up-and-coming band. (45/DW)

★★★★★

BIG DRILL CAR, "Album Type Thing" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long Beach, CA 90807): Stupid band name. Stupid album title. But the guitar work...all is forgiven. Mark Arnold's riffs lead this band through two heady sides of energy, with lyrics that don't even register because the slab of noise is so good. Oh sure, there are vocal harmonies in there somewhere, but I just enjoy the hard rock sound of it all. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE BILL JONES SHOW, "Sing Along With the Bill Jones Show" (PO Box 2707, North Canton, OH 44720): Quirky pop music that seems like a cross between, say, Daniel Johnston and Little Fyodor. Jones (a group? a person? who knows) seems to recognize this genre as appropriate, titling one song "Jad Fair Shook My Hand". Other proto-hits include "Sick Day Off" and "The Obituary Song". (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE BIRTH DEFECTS, "Setting our *own* path" ($5.50 from Patrick Fournier, 295, 4e Rue, Laval, QC, H7N 2A6, CANADA): An 8-song demo tape that sounds pretty darn good. These dudes started out with a punk hardcore sound—some of their faster numbers remind me of Angry Red Planet—but they've evolved, and one of the best cuts here is the emotion-laden near operatic "Stuck in a Wall". They've got both the passion and the talent, and I'd like to hear more of their stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

blackgirls, "Procedure" (Mammoth Records, 5 W. Hargett St. 4th Fl., Raleigh, NC 27601): How to describe the sound here? Guitar, keyboard, violin and ferocious vocals, the latter trading off between Eugenia Lee and Dana Kletter (with the third band member, Hollis Brown, doing some backing vocals as well), wildly syncopated rhythms, intense lyrics (especially on the title cut, a visit to an abortion clinic)—and this still doesn't sum up the sheer power of blackgirls wriiting and playing. I've been keeping an ear out for this band's LP debut ever since I was fortunate enough to hear their "Speechless" EP a few years ago. I'm not disappointed, and expect to hear much more from this unique combination in the future. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BLACKMALE, "Let it Swing" (Ruffhouse/Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): I'm sure there's a name for this style of music, but I don't know what it is. The guys in Blackmale put together elements of dance music, rap, funk, and hip-hop—and probably more—to form their own blend of somewhat naughty dance tunes. It's attractive the same way as good neon work: electric, lots going on, slick, and very modern sounding. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BLAKE BABIES, "Earwig" ($9 from Mammoth Records, 5 W. Hargett St., 4th Fl., Raleigh, NC 27601): The Boston area has spawned a number of eclectic pop bands, and this is one of the latest. After some personnel changes they've settled down as a 3-piece, though there's a fourth on some of these (Evan Dando, now with Lemonheads). The sound is bouncy, all angly guitars and tradeoff vocals (the only real flaw is that Juliana Hatfield tends to drone at times). Mellow but with surprising spots. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE BONEDADDYS, "Worldbeatniks" (Chameleon Records, 3355 W. El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250): It's The Bonedaddys—music's world beat rockin party on a tape. Fans of just about anything that has a beat can't miss here. The energy crackles off this release as it jumps, jives, jitters and skitters through a whirlwind of global rhythm and rock. The strength and verve with which they execute material lets you know that this band is a must-see in the live arena. (T/CS)

★★★★★

BOOTBEAST, "Carnival" (Noiseville, PO Box 124, Yonkers, NY 10710): There's a lot of influences working here, and it shows. The vocalist (from Drunks Wif Guns or Mighty Sphincter?) sounds like a mix between Biafra and Bowie. Frantic and edgy, with some dance club rhythms. Bootbeast reminded me of what an English psychedelic Fugazi might sound like. (45/TG)

★★★★★

BOP (harvey), "Bread & Circuses" (MDTA, PO Box 23257, Providence, RI 02903): With their full-bodied world beat rhythms and funky horns it's no surprise that these guys are building up a following fast. The music varies from mellow (briefly) to manic (much more often), and lyrics from just silly dance stuff to reasonably serious, as in "Lazarus Speaks", a Bible story updated and made danceable. Hot stuff. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

BOROX ORGY, "Drenched In Chemicals" ($3 to K. Kreider, PO Box 322, Ashburn, VA 22011): This vacillates between high cheese and low raunch, with plenty of diversion in between. "Boofur" is down and phlegmy, while "Sand Bats" is a pastoral delight. "Vile Toad" has hilarious lyrics ("vile toad/once a vital toad") but even it can't beat the bloated goof metal of "War Tuna." "Between Your Thighs" (". . . you've got the longest pubes I've ever seen.") was a bit much, though. With 32 tidbits here, there's a surprise around every corner. (T/TG)

★★★★★

BOUFFANT JELLYFISH, "Check my Boogman" ($2 from Rob Gray, 400 W. 34th #102, Austin, TX 78705): A four-song demo that left me hungry for more; I was crushed when I turned the tape over and found nothing else. BJ is a five-piece funky rock band with traces of world beat on the strong lead track "Shrimp and Chicken Jambo". "Surf the Funkwave" is also an interesting mix. There's just a trace of self-consciousness here, but once they get their groove down they'll be worth coking an ear for. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MICHAEL BOWMAN, "Fuzzy Logic" (Black Tulip, 56 Cleveland, Nutley, NJ 07110): Rough-edged somewhat psychedelic poppy rock, with some decidedly offbeat lyrics. "Rotting Corpse Girl" is a love song for the necrophiliac

JOHN BARTLES
ALL ALBUMS $6.00 ppd
* Flat Animal
* SNOUT
* The End of the Nuclear Age
* The Orange Album
P.O. BOX 288
SPRINGWATER, N.Y., 14560

THE SYMPTOMS
WEST
84 MIN
POP THE CORK
DRINK IT DOWN
music cassette:$7 pstpd to What Hiss/p.o.box 24155
winston-salem, nc 27114 COD: 919-760-4438 <24 hrs>

crowd; "Zygote" might be anti-abortion, but with its crazy imagery, who can be sure? There's an edge to Bowman's music that may spell either success or institutionalization, depending on whether his neuroses are shared by his audience. (T/MG)

★★★★★

STEVE BUCHANAN, "Hanna Reitsch (The World's 1st Jet Pilot)" ($6 from G. Gasiorowski, Violet Glass Oracle, 6230 Lewis Ave. #105, Temperance, MI 48182): Steve Buchanan is joined by various other performers in producing a highly conceptual cassette. "Cybernetic Primal Therapy" is a multimedia work consisting of 6 poets, 10 musicians, 4 dancers and 20 AM radios. Other tracks feature live concert and radio performances and studio improvisations. This release is definitely something you have to be in the right frame of mind to listen to, otherwise the discordant sounds and frantic instrumentation might wear a little thin. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

BUG, "Suck On It JFK" ($2 from PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): Thrumming guitars, vocal howlings, exuberance and a tape machine stuck on fast-forward (or some other means of making high-pitched squeals) are the ingredients of Bug. They pack ten songs into less than half an hour here, with a structurelessness that approaches chaos at times but still contains some hint of music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

BUXINRUT, "Flew Seize On" (RD1 Box 49, Frederica, DE 19946): Experimental rock, strange guitar sounds, a country twang here and there. Strange little songs from strange, fertile minds. Worth taking a chance if you like weird 4-track recordings. (T/DW)

BUXINRUT, "Flew Seize On" (Ken Glanden, RD#1, Box 49, Frederica, DE 19946): These guys should either learn to tune up and stay in time or do a better job of passing sloppiness off as "dissonance". Actually, for the first few songs, their schtick (jazz-rock-grunge fusion, heavy on the cheezoid flanger effects) is kind of amusing, but by the time you get to "Barfadelia" on the second side, it begins to wear a bit thin (to say the least). Could be worse. Could be raining. (T/KS)

[Æditor's note: Apparently, these folks sent two copies for review and got away with it. Don't expect to be so lucky.]

★★★★★

CACTUS FOSSILS, self-titled (Flipside, PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): FLIPSIDE is still taking the punk bands out of the garages and putting them out on vinyl. These guys are not exactly hardcore, but they're somewhere in that arena—self-described as "a cross between Dwight Yokum, Keith Moon and Black Flag". I liked the songwriting on "Paper or Plastic", asking what good "freedom" is in a consumer-oriented society. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

CHAOS UK, "The Chipping Sodbury Bonfire Tapes" ($7 from Weasel Records, PO Box 1274, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266): This has the seminal hardcore English punk sound, although as far as I can tell it's a new record. Judging by the back cover photos, these boys take their image to the extreme, but their playing is solid and their lyrics well-done. Most of their attacks are directed at capitalist scum, government or free-lance. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE CHEAPSKATERS, "Those Who Know...Know!" (Jeff Jarvie, 750-119 North, Indiana, PA 15701): These are cheerless songs of alienation and loathing of self, others, and the world in general. The nominally "rock" instrumentation is competent, but submerged by the murky production. Sleazy sexual metaphors abound, some of them, inexplicably, referring to Kristy McNichol. A feast for sick minds, this one won't appeal to those who like sweet, wholesome love songs. There's real talent here, but one gets the feeling they're trying too hard to be offensive, and not hard enough to make good music. (T/RM)

★★★★★

THE CHEAPSKATERS, "Where Pablum is Stored" (Jeff Jarvie, 750-119 North, Indiana, PA 15701): Snotty vocals, rudimentary instrumentation, and simple, folk-tinged rock songs vaguely recall the Violent Femmes and the late, lamented Godz. The lyrics betray an unhealthy fascination with Jack Ruby, strip shows, dead porn queens, and sleaze in general. The occasional electric guitar solo cuts through and enlivens the acoustic strums which are the heart of this music. The title track is a fairly amusing Dylan parody; production values throughout are fairly abysmal. In all, listenable; but hardly the stuff epiphanies are made of. (T/RM)

★★★★★

CHICKEN SCRATCH, "Important People Lose Their Pants" ($7 from Community 3, 438 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211): In the hands of some more normal band, lyrics like "There are plenty of squirrels to thank/They gather their nuts down at the bank" could have been an excuse for saccharine pop. In the hands of Chicken Scratch, they're one small ingredient in total mayhem, barely controlled guitar chaos that swallows up the piano tracks from producer Albert Garzon. Their sonic assault takes no prisoners and bows to no conventions, making this a challenging but rewarding record. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MICHAEL CHOCHOLAK, "Date With Kali" (M&M Music, PO Box 38, Cove, OR 97824): This "soundtrack to the forthcoming adventures of Nik Ryogen, zen private-eye" ranges into various electronic atmospheres, each apparently corresponding to a scene from Nik's thrilling escapades. Some of it grooves on the same cyber-bop level as cheesy old Nash the Slash (though with far cooler rhythm tracks), but the bulk of it remains fairly unclassifiable homebrew electronica. Howling psycho-country guitar, hysterical flute trills, and hypnotic digital delay meditations rise above (and, somehow, complement) the hokier moments to create a rather compelling album. (T/KS)

★★★★★

MICHAEL CHOCHOLAK, "Yellowjacket" (M&M Music, PO Box 38, Cove, OR 97824): More careful electronic music from Michael, who continues to explore new ways of relating sonically. This tape is more majestic and slower than some of his previous stuff, still in the dark, moody sound that characterizes much of his recent work. Check out the eerie "R'Lyeh" and the title cut, which graces the entire second side with its building horror. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CHURCH OF THE SUBGENIUS, "Hour of Slack" (PO Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214): This is a recording of the main SubGenius radio show, hosted by Ivan Stang himself. It's a mixture of ranting and music, including some otherwise unavailable tracks by folks like Zoogz Rift. The one I've got at hand features an anti-work rant and some humor from Bleepo Abernathy, but there are lots more, and for a buck you should be able to get a price list. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CLANNAD, "Pastpresent" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Traditional Irish music updated into the rock world, but this bears little resemblance to the manic energy of groups like Boiled In Lead. Rather, this is gentle (almost timid) woodlands glen rock, all intertwined vocals and harp melodies, that only rarely rises from pleasant to energetic. If you take your music along the lines of U2, investigate this; if you like it harder and darker, skip it. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

COLUMN V, "Living At Downtown Beirut" (58 E. 1st St. #6A, New York, NY 10003): Not quite hardcore, this demo tape still has teeth-gritting power beats and pulsating music that packs a wallop. I can't say any of their songs really stick, but the overall feel is of a solid, competent band that could go somewhere with more polish and personality. (T/MG)

★★★★★

CONTEXT, "Product 1" (DM10 from Stefan Schwab, Tonspur Tapes, Eskilstunastr. 8, 8520 Erlangen, WEST GERMANY): Context is Stefan's solo electronic music project. This is a rather slow-moving collection of noises from analog synthesizers, with a lot of echoing and repeating noises the gradually fade away and a gradual development. Think of the opening of "Fly Like

"*Crazy*" - Thurston Moore

"*It conjures up visions*" - Brian Aldiss

"*When the last song was finished, all the birds fell dead from the sky.*" - Richard Schindler

"*A Salvador Dali of music*" - GYPSY

MICHAEL CHOCHOLAK

M & M MUSIC
P.O. Box 38
Cove, OR 97824 USA

send sase for free catalog

an Eagle" and you'll have a pretty close reference—only this goes on for 40 minutes rather than a few bars. (T/MG)

★★★★★

COSTES, "Lung Farts" ($10 from Lisa Carver, PO Box 1491, Dover, NH 03820): 25 songs in fractured English (lyrics included), featuring masturbation, excretion, sex, other bodily functions, and Costes' own tremendous egoism. The music is the minimal pop that generally accompanies his other works, making this a sort of extended rant with only tenuous connection to the idea of "songs". The sound quality...well, putting Costes on CD is like your neighbors using high-definition TV to videotape their remodeling. It's possible, but pointless. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

CRISIS PARTY, "Rude Awakening" (No Wonder/Metal Blade, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): Hard and heavy rock from the Pacific Northwest, shorn of the grandstanding tedium that infuses most metal bands. There's a touch of Alice Cooper showmanship here, a touch of AC/DC heaviness, and a lot of original energy. Rock for your next party, when moving and grooving is more important than anything else. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

CYCLIC AMP, "Happy Ending" ($5 from Tumult, 2336 Market St. #107, San Francisco, CA 94114): Very raw, dark, grungey rock that's not quite hardcore. There's a more malevolent, challenging presence here than simple political opposition, a deep streak of outraged emotions. This comes out most clearly in "christiane", an angry pagan blast against those who would foist their gods on others. Just Say Yes...but only if you like a strong experience. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE DEADBEATS, "I Can See It From the Rocks" b/w "Your Cottage Is Nice" (Vacant Lot Records, PO Box 606, Red Bank, NJ 07701): In portraying this rock 3-piece as just plain folks, the promo sheet says they "aren't all that excited about this single coming out". To tell the truth, neither am I. They're certainly sincere sounding, and the sax work is momentarily interesting, but basically this is a pretty unexceptional record. (45/MG)

★★★★★

DEATH OF SAMANTHA, "Come All Ye Faithless" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): Death of Samantha has come a long way since their overlooked debut "Strungout on Jargon" in 1986. This new album is pop with a quirky sense of humor by John Petkovic plus the added attraction of crafty lyrics. It seems that the more I listen to this record I get a happy feeling and really start to appreciate the wacky humor that is sometimes missing from bands today. A nice change of pace from "serious" rock (LP/KB)

★★★★★

THE DEL FUEGOS, "Smoking In The Fields" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): The Del Fuegos have taken a certain amount of shit for doing beer commercials, and in some cases this seems to have affected the views of their music. Granted, this album does sometimes sound dated or even tired, charges leveled at their previous one. But there's nothing wrong with being dated, not if that recalls the sounds of The Band and perhaps even early Springsteen. Solid rock, nothing out of the ordinary, but it delivers what it promises. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

DEREK AND THE STRATEGO MEN, "Derek's Big Big Hits" ($3.50 from Derek Pinkham, Hodsdon Road, Pownal, ME 04069): Mainly guitar, mainly instrumental, though there are lyrics on some tracks and backing instruments. Derek ranges musically from Hendrix to free jazz, moving around pretty fast but always maintaining a thread of melody in the jam to provide continuity. A few hot cuts here, including "Chopp". (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE DEVIANTS, self-titled ($2 *CASH* from Dominic Cramp, 761 Lurline Dr., Foster City, CA 94404): A rather varied trip through the worlds of experimental music. There's a bit of ambient natural noise behind synthesizers, a bit of distorted vocals, some eerie tracks, a near-industrial one, and more. The Deviants don't get stuck in a rut (or at least they haven't found their rut yet) but rather go on a far-ranging exploratory trip, acting as a sort of jungle guide to the listener. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DEVILSFOOD SNAKE, self-titled (Jeff Jarvie, 750-119 North, Indiana, PA 15701): Fun, guitar-driven hardcore. This is teen splatter-movie Satanism, not serious enough to be scary. Their falsetto harmonies get tiresome quickly. "Sally's a Succubus" is clever, and the most listenable track. These guys remind you on every track how well acquainted they are with Satan ("The devil greets me with a pound of weed", "Satan gave me a spoon", "Satan whispers lyrics in my left ear", "Satan's favorite band is Devilsfood Snake"). Interesting lyrics, but very overburdened with drug references. Nice guitar work. A note to their cover artist: snakes don't have hands. (T/AG)

★★★★★

THE DHAMMAPADA ($10.95 from Audio Literature, Inc., 325 Corey Way #112, South San Francisco, CA 94080-6706): The Dhammapada is a classic short work of the Buddha, here translated by Thomas Byron and read by Jack Kornfield from the Insight Meditation Center. The work concentrates on the basics, giving up, becoming unattached, abandoning striving. It's simple, it's straightforward, and seductively attractive. But I found this a hard tape to review, because it made me want to stop striving so hard to write reviews! (T/MG)

★★★★★

JON DIAZ & DOUGLAS BALDWIN, "I Shall From Now On Do the Things I'm Not Supposed to Do" ($6.50 from Douglas Baldwin c/o Art Clowns, 35 Caldwell St., Huntington Station, NY 11746): A selection of live improvisational material with a sort of whining guitar ambience. They start somewhere between jazz and rock, with some West Indian rhythms sneaking in now and then. This is pretty far from the major currents and genres in music, and hard to appreciate for that reason, but on its own terms quite good. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DIE WARZAU, "Disco Rigido" (Polygram, 825 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10019): The title might tip some of you off, but for the rest, this is a strange hybrid indeed: industrial dance music. This four-piece churns out traditional disco rhythms heavily overlaid with grunge guitar, sampled noises and sound bits, and dangerously warped vocals. A place for spandex and dirty leather to meet on the dance floor. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE DIRK HARTUNG COMBO, "Drained Wait" (SHM Tapes, Guido Erfen, Auguststr. 31, 5000 Köln 60, WEST GERMANY): Sort of industrial, sort of jazzy. There's sax here, and organ, and accordion, and piano, and zither, and who knows what else. The pieces move slowly, rising and falling, not really building to any particular conclusion but just blending together. Throughout there is percussion and yowling. Very dark stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DISPOSABLE GOD SQUAD, self-titled (Tomo Asanovic, 68 Dean St. #2R, Brooklyn, NY 11201): Lush, Kramer-engineered rock that is simply loaded with hooks. Tomo's bass is the lead instrument on several tracks, giving the group a lowdown visceral impact that is quite addictive. This stuff could almost be pop if it were toned down by about a hundred watts. Includes a cool cover of "Hot Child in the City". (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE DOC ELLIS COMBINE, "Droppin' Out With The Doc Ellis Combine" (Bone Cabin Tapes, 522 Washington St. 3rd Fl., Hoboken, NJ 07030): Three-man acoustic guitar based rock that is somewhere in the folk to rockabilly axis most of the time, although on some of their covers ("Space Cowboy", "Low Rider") they wander pretty far afield. When they're at their best, the intensity overrides the simplicity of their style; this happens on "Seven Nights of Rock" and "I Need Your Luven". But with 24 songs on this tape, there's a few duds, as is only to be expected. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DRESDEN DANSE, "Acid" (Harvard Square Records/One Dimensional Records, PO Box 1926, Cambridge, MA 02238): Though acid house as a fad is pretty much passe, there's enough talent in this release to ensure its successful entertainment and interest factor for the listener. The songs are danceable (as to be expected from this genre) and memorable as well—with simple but effective hooks repetitively used atop the driving beat. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

GEOFF DUGAN, "Abreaction" ($5 from 379 Milledge Ave. SE, Atlanta, GA 30312): This is somewhere in the experimental to industrial arena, with Geoff playing around with various ways to combine tape loops, modified voice, and even autoharp. One track is nothing but applause, repeated until it becomes meaningless noise. Another comes from the Destroy All Music festival, an annual event where people assemble to be aurally assaulted, and I'm sure this satisfied them. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RANDY DYER'S DIAMOND CHILD, "Created Image" ($4.50 from The Furnace Room, 10556 Lincoln St. SE, East Canton, OH 44730): Only three songs here, so it's kind of hard to get a fully rounded impression. Still, what's here is definitely worth hearing. Three bracing songs that I'd call psychedelic alternative barroom rock. Music you can settle in and drink a beer to, but with an "out-there" kind of edge and some wavy guitar work weaving in and out. (T/CS)

★★★★★

JOHN EAGAN, "Industry" ($6 from Covert Music, PO Box 5868, Toledo, OH 43613): Melodic, really beautiful music here—including a gorgeous acoustic piece called "November", and my favorite, "No Trace", a moody new-wave instrumental. What lyrics there are are hard to make out but this tape makes great listening anyway. (T/CER)

★★★★★

EAST OF EDEN, self-titled (Capitol Records, 1750 N. Vine St., Hollywood, CA 90028): Vocally Cinde Lager is like Chrissie Hynde: she's able to convey a husky sensuality and raw mystery with equal amounts of conviction and gusto. Musically the material is lush, flowing, mysterious and ethereal—it's pop music with a whole new dimension to it. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

EAT, "Sell me A God" (PolyGram Communications, 825 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10019): At first I found this one sort of lackluster, but on repeated listens it picked up steam and now I think it's in my A pile. This quintuplet of Britishers plays "swampadelic" music, all growly guitar chords and off-base tempos, that drill into the subconscious with their glacial stubbornness. Check out their cover of "Summer in the City". (T/MG)

★★★★★

EIGHTH ROUTE ARMY, "Prodigal Son" (1 Dimensional Records, PO Box 923, Northampton, MA 01060): It was interesting: the interplay of various influences and hints of familiar styles constantly shifts throughout their songs. One minute it's gruff, acid-tinged beat-poet mid-60's rock, the next playfully grungy early 80's garage punk. In between it touched on metal, hardcore, pop and straight-ahead rock and roll. With each song you're convinced you're hearing something familiar and yet original enough to hold the attention and remain in memory. (45/CS)

★★★★★

LEE ERWIN, "Demented" (1 David Ln. #4A, Yonkers, NY 10701): A low-budget comedy tape that draws heavily on characters from TV (and TV theme music, for that manner, leading to a rather lo-fi release). The opening "Alvin in Hell" sketch was not promising, but some of the later material lightened up a good deal, with "Fozzy and Harriet" and "Wheel of Jeopardy" being a lot of fun. Lee is a pretty good mimic, and he comes up with some truly bizarre situations to throw cartoon characters and public figures into. (T/MG)

★★★★★

EXPANDO BRAIN, "Prounder Than Chower" ($3.50 from Vacant Lot Records, PO Box 606, Red Bank, NJ 07701): Short bursts of intense direct tunes. "Drug Yacht" is one hot tune with its blistering roller coaster romp and lightning speed drumming. "I Blame You" comes across in a Pretenders sort of way while "Gods Words" held me speechless. What more can you ask for in choppy punk pop? This EP would have made my top ten of the year if I had known about it. (EP/KB)

★★★★★

THE FAITH DEALERS, "Big Busty Beauties" (Limited Potential Records, PO Box 268586, Chicago, IL 60626): Killer rock with a lot of ingredients—psychedelia, raving guitar lines, sloppy vocals, energetic drumming—all thrown into one tasty stew. With tunes like "Big Black Cartoon" and "My Gerbil's DEAD" you can see they don't take their music too seriously; "PEACE" rags on the leftists pretty well too. Ignore the pretentiously smutty album cover and concentrate on the fast-paced breathtaking music. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

FIDELITY JONES, "Piltdown Lad" ($5 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): This is one of those records that encourages reviewers to play "spot the influences", thanks to its diverse, hard-driving rock sound. I heard flashes of calliope, blues, and even vocals reminiscent of a young Alice Cooper on one track. What it boils down to, though, is a band with its own, not unpleasant sound, but one that takes getting used to—especially when it sinks in that most of the lyrics are about the mess we've made of the world. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

FINGERHEAD, "Audio Misery" (Jeff Jarvie, 750-119 North, Indiana, PA 15701): This is a band that is trying desperately to be hardcore, which amounts to their second biggest problem. Their biggest problem is that this tape is inaudible. What you do hear seems quite calculated. Besides some disturbing racist, sexist, fascist themes, "Audio Misery" is rife with boring repetition: many mentions of *Gone With The Wind*, Elvis, media sexpots, the Earth being hollow, penises. This tape is not for sensitive types. (T/AG)

★★★★★

FIRE PARTY, "New Orleans Opera" ($5 from Dischord, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): Grunge, anger and pain from three women and a guy. Hot power-pop infused with metal and hatred. Outstanding cuts include "Prisoner" and "Fire". Not to be missed. (EP/DW)

★★★★★

MARGARET FREEMAN, "The Comm Dept" (Christophe Mielle, 182 Ave Jean Lolive, 93500 Pantin, FRANCE): Edgy keyboard-laden rock that mucks around with familiar sounding themes to produce something to get the adrenalin moving. No song titles here, but the B side sounds pretty good on this cassingle. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE FUCKEDTONES, demo tape (Doug Konzen, 12543 Totem Lake Blvd. #111, Kirkland, WA 98034): Strange meandering jams, with guitar and synth and almost industrial percussion, and the occasional vocals. The Fuckedtones still seem to be exploring aural space, looking for a sound to latch on to. Or perhaps they're creating their own, a sort of lounge music from the Twilight Zone. In any case, this is much more listenable than their name would suggest. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FYDLSTYX, "Dew-Dah" ($8.50 from Rick Ulman, PO Box 15075, St. Louis, MO 63110): More wild folk music dug up from all over the place. Bob Butler plays fiddle and occasional fife; Rick Ulman weaves a variety of banjo, autoharp, concertina, and even "daff" (?) tracks around his work. They play traditional tunes, Irish music, revolutionary war songs, and much more. A music more concerned with authenticity than polish—the recording is good, but the instruments and whole feel are more rough-hewn. (T/MG)

★★★★★

FLOATING CONCRETE OCTOPUS, "Polynoise" ($4 from Bangaway Productions, 1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306): FCO is the musical production of Miekal And & Liz Was, in an attempt to reclaim pure noise as an artform from the stultifying confines of music. Armed with sampler and a Mac SE, they find and create lots of little soundbits and string them together, with results from the hypnotic to the harrowing. It probably won't replace Mozart (or even Motorhead), but it doesn't sound half bad. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE GEAR, "Blim" (Chocolate Moustache Records, 3119 Stolzenfeld, Warren, MI 48091): Well, The Gear aren't perfect. On some of these songs Bob Zabor's vocals in particular just don't cut it. But on others, like the closing "Smoking and Drinking", they work out just fine. This is hard-edged fast-moving pop for the most part, though they move around the map both lyrically and musically. Mostly they seem to just want to have a good time and play fun music, and by and large they succeed. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

GIFT HORSE, "Radio Kremlin" & "Son of Gravity" (409 W. 48 St. #3RE, New York, NY 10036): A cassingle with two poppy rocking songs on it, both well executed but not quite hitting the spark. The band has tried to pack too much in here, showing up some versatility but losing their focus. Of the two, "Radio Kremlin" is the better, and if tightened up a bit would be a fine single. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TIM GILBRIDE, "Dirt" ($5 from 2183 Professor Ave. #1, Cleveland, OH 44113): A collection of primarily guitar solo instrumentals, with a bit of sampling and drum machine thrown in. Tim wanders about the musical landscape, sticking fairly close to the mainstream and providing a series of interesting explorations, building up to the title cut with its edgy siren rhythms. Fairly easy to listen to but not insipid. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GOD BULLIES, "mama womb womb" (Amphetamine Reptile Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN. 55404): A raw album with loud, trashy guitars and rhythms that are somewhere between the garage and the graveyard. The vocals are a blasphemous screed bordering on the edge of total breakdown. A blathering frenzy which has Art Linkletter (no friend of rock & roll) being drowned out by frenzied noise in "Act of Desire." This is a dirty, over-the-top mess that reminded me how it felt the time I got hit in the head with a coal shovel. More! Give it to me! (LP/TG)

★★★★★

THE GODPLEASERS, "The Black Snake of Wounded Vanity" ($2 to Stungus, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): This proposes to be "aural pre-interpretations" of J.G. Ballard's **CRASH** and Burroughs' **NAKED LUNCH**.

Canada's "Living Music" Label

CENTREDISCS

VIOLA NOUVEAU

Available at classical record stores throughout Canada or order directly from Canadian Music Centre Distribution Service, 20 St. Joseph Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4Y 1J9. (416) 961-6601 Visa phone orders accepted. Please write for a free distribution catalogue featuring over 100 Canadian composer recordings.

Rivka Golani, one of the world's few outstanding solo violists, performs Brian Cherney's Seven Miniatures, Milton Barnes' Lamentations of Jeremiah, André Prévost's Improvisation III, David Jaeger's Favour, and Otto Joachim's Requiem. CMC-CD 0883 (compact disc) Digital Recording.

It's mostly experimental stuff that culls from preachers, classical music, cartoons has some long, rhythmic mantras. There are some neat sounds and interesting samples, but it got tedious after awhile. Did we read the same books? (T/TG)

* * *

THE GOMERS, "Comin' Atchya!" ($6.50 from 607 E. Dayton St., Madison, WI 53703): Coll and hilarious rock with touched of punk and pop and who knows what else—well, for one thing they lead off with "The Jewish Rap". Later on there are songs about space aliens and Zip-loc bags and having an antenna in your brain and of course Sgt. Carter. Funny stuff with lots of changes of pace and undeniably good musicianship. (T/MG)

* * *

RICHARD GRAHAM, "Lexicon" ($7 from 134 Louis St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901): "A solo poetic journey" using a variety of traditional and modern (mostly) percussion instruments, along with piano, bamboo flute, tape loops and more. Graham puts many touches of nature in his songs, and the result is a backwoods journey around the world, with light music following along and some really hypnotic jamming too. Not the highest quality, but certainly the highest enthusiasm. (T/MG)

* * *

GRANFALLOON, self-titled (Matt, 18 Leonard Dr., Waldwick, NJ 07463): The recording quality here is not the best, but there's a sincerity shining through that makes that easy to overlook. Granfalloon is a four-piece that depends mostly on acoustic guitars, with exotic touches added by conga percussion and cello tracks. They go in for gentle intertwined melodies, lots of hooks, and an almost jazz-like lyrical sense, with words and ideas tripping out in a rush of emotion. (T/MG)

* * *

GREIGE TRAVAIL, "Mr. Only Has A" ($5 from Bangaway Productions, 1460 Cornell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30306): Substantial territory covered in the above's 5th release. Here meet somewhat conventional sound sources, i.e. guitars, keyboards, tapes, percussion, combining to form an assortment of not too conventional compositions: some tracks that will grunt like a befuddled pig clamoring for air under the mud while others imply ballads marooned on a smirking, mycotic island. You'll likely chuckle along with the lyrics which are insightful and surrealistically naive. Ninety minutes of moving sounds. (T/JM)

* * *

GREGORIAN GEORGE, "Aluminum Jungle" ($6 from Violet Glass Oracle, 6230 Lewis Ave. #105, Temperance, MI 48182): This one appears to be a conscious attempt to break out of the usual line of synthetic music. There are snippets of samples, abrupt shifts in tone and rhythm, and other tricks to keep the listener on their toes. It works pretty well, remaining interesting while only occasionally getting annoying with its lack of a groove. (T/MG)

* * *

GUTTERSNIPE, self-titled (625 Lundfair Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024): Bad uninspiring hardcore. No heart or emotion were put into this recording. With horrendous vocals (a very weak Jello Biafra imitation), average playing, and weak songwriting ideas and lyrics, there is nothing that makes this band stand out or even deserve another listen. They even play the token "fun" song on the tape (the "Spiderman" cartoon theme) which degrades their hardcore facade even further. Oh yeah, they also thank all the people who gave them beer. (T/LJC)

* * *

THE HAFLER TRIO, "Ignotum Per Ignotius" ($20 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, UK): As with other Touch productions, this is a classy but enigmatic package. The CD itself is six tracks of rather ambient material: jet engines, gentle city noises, TV through a thick wall, plus some tone generators and perhaps a dentist drill or two. It will give the range of your player a real workout. It comes packaged with a booklet of short stories, printed in mirror-image fashion to add to its air of unreality. Music through the Looking Glass? (CD/MG)

* * *

CLARK HAGINS, "Shark '86" (251 Paseo de Gracia, Redondo Beach, CA 90277): Gentle guitar rock with light-hearted lyrics. It's sort of relaxing to have this on, just one guy and an instrument, after too many hours of sheer walls of noise. Clark has a strange sense of humor—check out "Neo Atheist Boogie" and "Soviet Penicillin"—and a light touch. (T/MG)

* * *

HANDS TO, "Chamaco" (Big Body Parts, 3031 E. Platte #2, Colorado Springs, CO 80909): Experimental noise which cuts like a bad memory through an otherwise good day. Quivering technodoom breathes in your insano-sphere for awhile, before creeping through the airwaves to its next poor victim. There's a sense of time suspended and replaced with a bludgeoning numbness that grates your nerves to ribbons, leaving you ready for a few beers and a long talk with a loved one. (T/TG)

* * *

HANDS TO, untitled/**MENTAL ANGUISH**, "Orange is for Anguish, Blue for Insanity" (Big Body Parts, 3031 E. Platte #2, Colorado Springs, CO 80809): This has more psychotic deliverances from Hands To, starting with a staccato of speech and noise drilling through your skull like an acupuncture overdose, then turning into a pastoral nightmare. Mental Anguish is intriguing synth music, alternately spooky, exotic and new agey, but with one jazz-rock clunker. There's also a Readers' Digest Spanish language record recorded for 81/2 RPM and a handmake sleeve. Fascinating. (LP/TG)

* * *

THE HAPPIEST PLACE ON EARTH, "The Blinding Black Light of Hate" (4391 Sunset Blvd. #235, Los Angeles, CA 90029): Constant, Senseless Reiteration (as the subtitle declares) can be very compelling. However, these pieces build on reiteration using an array of found sounds and a parade of electronic instruments to meld into a beautiful and intriguing collection. Some pieces sound not unlike Roger Miller's prepared piano. Highly recommended. (T/KJ)

* * *

HARD-ONS, "Love is a Battlefield Among Wounded Hearts" ($7 from Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Newton, MA 02166): Furious music from hell—their label calls their sound, in part, "metallic garage surf and death punk". It's all that and more, a barrage of loud guitars, grotty vocals, and all-around mayhem. The psychedelic quasi-Satanic cover is not going to make them any more popular with the PMRC either. (LP/MG)

* * *

GRANT HART, "Intolerance" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): Those Hüsker Dü fans who expect Hart to start off where that band ended are bound to be disappointed. Acoustic guitars, keyboards, tambourines, harmonicas...What is this? Where is the thrash? Hart play every instrument on the record as well as writing and producing. From the introspective tale of relationships in "2541" to the pain of "You're the Victim" we see what post-heroin addiction and HD life is life. Loses focus now and then, but on the whole enjoyable. Don't condemn this for not being thrash or you'll be missing out on a fine LP. (LP/LJC)

* * *

HELMET OFF, "Theatre of Distraction" ($6 from HeadJam Productions, PO Box 1305, San Jose, CA 95109): Strange texts and intriguing noise collages combine in this rather experimental tape. The artists claim their aim is to manufacture a product that caters to distraction rather than concentration, and so there are multiple interwoven fast-change tracks here. Mideast-sounding chants, thoughts on mobile homes and status, flute, percussion and much more combine here. Reminds me a bit of the stuff that Backyard Mechanics For Language has done, but with a more musical feel. (T/MG)

* * *

HERMANOS GUZANOS, "Ducks and Covers" ($5 from Darrell Draeger, PO Box 1425, Bakersfield, CA 93302): A tape of cover tunes, all done in the cool H.G. style of swampabilly fuzzguitar crunchy rock. They take a bunch of standards, including "Paranoid", "All Shook Up", "Louie Louie" and "Shortnin' Bread", file the serial numbers off, put on a fresh coat of paint, and make 'em all their own. Fun stuff. (T/MG)

* * *

THE HERMETIC ACADEMY, "The Reality Show"(David Fideler, PO Box 6114, Grand Rapids, MI 49516): A very polished 24-track demo tape with somewhat esoteric lyrics, especially on the title track. Other songs here are more straightforward love songs, but on everything the musical arrangements are lush and intricate, synthesizer and guitar landscapes to get lost in. They avoid bombast and needless flash, and so are not precisely in fashion, but I'd like to hear more of this. (T/MG)

* * *

ELVIS HITLER, "Hellbilly" (Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231): Once again everyone's fave cow-punks take to vinyl. This time out their sound is bigger, heavier and more aggressive than on "Disgraceland". The swamp is slowly being shaken from their boots as they continue to stomp ahead full throttle into new areas of punk and speedrock. But there's still (at least this time around) enough of the backwoods spirit in supply here to give even the most "Motorhead-esque" melody a little twang and zip. (LP/CS)

* * *

HOLY ROLLERS, "Origami Sessions" (Dischord, 3189 Beecher St., NW, Washington DC, 20007): This is a fresh-sounding effort from a DC trio who mix crunch-chord guitars, bottom of the barrel bass lines and street smart drums into a heavy hopefulness. Lyrically, there's much searching, spiritual renewal and (No!) the Big Guy. "Eleventy" is a chunky number with an inspirational chorus straight out of "Tired of Waiting" by the Kinks. "Dahlia" is hard college radio rock. Music for a new Millenium! (EP/TG)

* * *

HOOPLA!, "Everybody Wants Some" ($3 from 407 W. Elm, Carbondale, IL 62901): Accurately self-described as "garage-junk-funk-punk", this energetic outfit, without the pretense of a preacher, takes appropriate jabs at the hideous robot some call Society. The music jumps along at a quick-but-smooth pace. Underproduction (not a detriment) indicates a homey, no frills approach to their sound. (T/JM)

* * *

HORNY GENIUS, "Burn Your Sister" ($7 from Community 3, 438 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211): Clangin', bangin', fun-loving rock and roll out of Iowa City. They've got a heartlands sound, but it's not a wimpy one; this is modern high-octane stuff, not the regular roots rock. Check out "Crossed Wires", "Hairball", and "Faults", the latter with great guest vocals from Dawn McCarthy. (LP/MG)

* * *

JOHN HUDAK, "The Clockmaker" (PO Box 7784, Philadelphia, PA 19101-7784): John calls what he does "sound tapes"; he experiments with very basic sonic imagery to see what he can do. On this tape it's clocks, several of them, producing a complex, changing rhythm that can't quite fade off into the background no matter how repetitive it might seem. No doubt many would find this too tedious for words, but I actually got interested by the time I was halfway through. (T/MG)

★★★★★

HUMAN DRAMA, "Feel" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Compellingly presented new wave pop with more than a touch of melodrama in its veins. Very reminiscent of The Simple Minds circa their "Breakfast Club" music—the same sense of straightforward passion and danceably moving melodies, but Human Drama puts more histrionics in their vocals. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

HUMIDIFIER, "Sinus" (Lubricated Records, 1086 Tulsa St., Uniondale, NY 11553): Pretty well done rock, with lots of guitars and disquieting undertones as well as some lighter bits like the cover of "Boys of Summer". "Santa Claus' Daughter" is real cool, an anti-holiday song ending "When you've got a father like mine/it's hard not to hate Christmas time." (T/MG)

★★★★★

JACK HURWITZ, "Escaping Oblivion" ($5 from Poison Plant, 7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854): Taped directly to two-track (no by-products or fillers here), Hurwitz has created some electronic music that is at times relaxing and escaping, while at other moments haunting and eerie. No titles are given to the pieces as the music never really ends, but just flows, causing one to wonder whether these are compositions or spontaneous sounds. Nice in that it's unlike anything I've heard before and its relaxing/haunting duality keeps you off balance. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

J. HURWITZ, "In the Undertow/Music From Distant Days" ($6.50 from Poison Plant, 12407B Hickory Tree Way, Germantown, MD 20874): Catchy, talented synthesizer music. All the tunes are quite individual, lilting pieces, strong pieces, near-classical pieces, most with electronic drums filling things out, An interesting selection of very listenable tunes. (T/CER)

★★★★★

I AM THE HAMSTER, "Sings the Hits of the Hard Rock Era" ($3 from Goon Records & Tapes, PO Box 5892, Orange, CA 92613-5892): Sloppy punkoid rock music that starts off with a hideous rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner". Later on they demolish "Pushin' Too Hard", and serve up a helping of original tunes which are long on madness and perhaps a bit short on practice and talent. For those who like their music served raw. (T/MG)

★★★★★

IDY, "Richard Gulling" ($5.50 from The Furnace Room, 10556 Lincoln St., East Canton, OH 44730): Mostly electronic wanderings that varied from sparse to cute to downright annoying. A lot of sounds/strings of notes/repetition stuff, some exploration of melodies (more often extremely simple than not). As I segued into the second side things seemed to take more shape and direction, pulling together a little more decisively than side one did. (T/CS)

★★★★★

ILLEGITIMATE SONS OF JACKIE O, untitled (Sound Noise Music, PO Box 472084, Tulsa, OK 74147): The A side has this band cranking out rock & roll, punk and a couple of long, heavy jams that end just as they're getting to be too much. It's all really thrashy stuff. The B side has long samplings from Vivaldi, radio broadcasts, American propoganda songs and John Wayne, which is all fairly entertaining, although I'd have rather heard more of their own music. (T/TG)

★★★★★

ILLUMINATUS! self-titled ($5 from Tony Mentzer c/o Space Station, 101 Sharon Rd., West Middlesex, PA 16159): An 8-song demo of rock jamming that seems to owe a lot to some classic rockers; Santana stands out as one influence, and there's an intro that sounded strongly of "American Woman" in another spot. But it's well-executed, and these guys do seem to have some talent. I'm just not sure they've found their own groove yet. (T/MG)

★★★★★

I LOVE YOU, "I Love You Live" (Medusa Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Imagine that a band with decent licks took the last thirty years of music and threw them into the blender. Pour it out, put it on the turntable, and this is what you might get. There are bits of 60's psychedelic classics inserted here, but there's also late-80's thrash metal and noise. Sounds like their stage show is downright energetic, and with a signing to Geffen, you'll probably hear more of them in the future yourself. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

INDUSTRIAL TEEPEE, self-titled (PNYM, PO Box 3854, Jersey City, NJ 07303): Light, almost airy rhythmic songs with fluttery melodies, a pleasant touch and a sense of the comic in their execution. The "good time" feeling is overwhelming, even as the band jumps and skips within the aforementioned framework of their music. Now a little funky, now a little rockin', now a little dancy...The band seems to really enjoy what they're doing, and that spreads outward through the music to the listener. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

Offering of the Goods

1. Three Rock Gods
Rock Jigsaw Drink Valkiries..........$ 2.50
2. Three Rock Gods
Coring Device..........$ 3.50
3. Colored Greens
Final Gothic Summer..........$ 3.50
4. Henry Army Opera Co.
Four Manly Epics..........$ 3.00
5. Henry Army Opera Co. Video
I Rape Hardhats
—Live at The Pyramid Club, N.Y.C..........$10.00
6. DON IRELAND
4 song E.P. ....$ 2.50
7. Sampler—A shattering example of what we offer, Try it...the ugliest, best, freshest, no vests......$ 2.50

Descriptions & Reviews

Three Rock Gods—"Diverse vigorous technology...Hard-edged, philisophical freeform variations, fresh dynamism...powerful and true...innovative. 'Intriguing post-punk in the Joy division vein...this is not to be missed. —Fact Sheet Five. High-spirited cool. Try it

Colored Greens—The Greenboy twins meet Uncle Tom Thumb...Hardcore matinee and mix it all up from punk to Superfly and Birdland jazz raving up to heavy nightmarish music with bad-assed lyrics to expand your vision.

Henry Army Opera Co.—Experimental perversion...Opera? Burlesgue? Vaudeville punk?...Flashy, decadent and mean. Don't miss the live show, I Rape Hardhats, complete with actors, scenery, narration and many perverted surprises.

Don Ireland—Electro-minimal. wirism... Lyrical...romantic, ethereal imagery.. a real solo-stylist on the cutting edge.

Sampler—A taste of some of our favorites and soon to be yours very palatably done.

To Order
Cassettes and other...
Domestic
—add $.50
Overseas
—add $1.00

For a complete list of goods and bads and previously vague information, send a Stamp.

BIG RED ANT
330 E. 63rd Street N.Y., N.Y. 10021 c/o Sir Richard Duckworth

JAILHOUSE, "Alive in a Mad World" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Musically, these guys are somewhere between Foghat (thanks to some nice slide guitar playing) and Thin Lizzie (they do a cover of "Jailbreak"). However, their lyrics rise above the mindless headbanging to include a couple of political songs, including the supercharged anti-racist song "Land of Today". A welcome antidote to some of the socially unaware hard rock bands out there. This is a live recording, with a few rough spots but plenty of energy. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JAJ ENTREPRISE, "87-89" (40f from Roemer Jerome, 38 Bld de Lyon, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): Cool European techno-pop that gets in some sax and harmonica work as well as the usual guitar and synthesizer. Josie Maurel's lead vocals are very strong and forthright, and her range helps pull the listener along through the shifting audio landscapes. Swirling multi-layered music that sounds good even with the language barrier. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JANDEK, "The Living End" ($6 from Corwood Industries, PO Box 15375, Houston, TX 77220): Artsy, beatnik music with a little psychedelia to it. Songs seem a little meandering vocally—a little like free-spirited, off-beat late 60's early 70's music poets, The melodies are simply structured, basic instrumentals, but they still manage to convey a certain impression and mood. (LP/CS)

★★★★★

THE JAYHAWKS, "Blue Earth" (Twin\Tone Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404): Real sincere country-rock that's an easy sort of thing to listen to. That doesn't mean that it's pap, just that Mark Olson's vocals and Gary Louris' lead guitar blend seamlessly with the rest of the stuff here to put the country spirit out over a slow rock beat. "Sioux City", an archetypical song of love lost, is one of the best on the album. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

JERRY'S KIDS, "Kill Kill Kill" ($7 from Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Newtown, MA 02166): Jerry's Kids came out of the Boston hardcore scene in the early 80's, about the same time that Gang Green did. But while the latter band seems to have become a walking beer commercial, the Kids have remained pretty faithful to the original hardcore sound, churning out a challenging, sometimes murky, assaultive blend of guitars and crunchy vocals. This is hardcore, not metal, and it seems to intend to stay that way forever, burning out parents and amplifiers alike. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

JUNK MONKEYS, "Soul Cakes" (No Wonder/Metal Blade, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): The Junk Monkeys are the type of band that is going to get lost in the shuffle between rock and metal which is too bad. I like this LP which comes from the world of power pop with a hint of punk image. The Junk Monkeys perform tunes that make the bass/drums the focus of their attack, coming the way of the Reducers or the Neighborhoods. No Wonder Records may make the mistake of ramming this down the throats of a metal crowd but it would do better with the ranks of those college radio stations who dig power pop. (T/KB)

★★★★★

KAK MAMA, "Nazi Dwarfs Must Live" ($2 from Matt Cornell, Stungus, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): Sloppy feedback-heavy rock-industrial hybrid music that starts off abrasive and degrades from there. The lyrics—when they can be made out—tend towards the lurid and unprintable. "Santa Raped My Grandma" is the outstanding point of the tape, an extended screaming and screeching noisefest. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KATHY KING, "Low Tech Nuclear Waste" ($4.85 from 636 Louise Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103): "The main objective of the recording is to make viable music with the lowest of the lowest in technology and semi-minimal playing abilities." Perhaps for that reason—no lofty aspirations or pretensions here—it works so well. The songs are simply arranged, written in a fundamentally straightforward and simple manner, and yet they are charming and entertaining. Alternating between instruments and electronics, the music reminded me, many a time, of the medieval mode of plucking strings to create music without heavy use of chords, or, also, the style we've come to call "New Age". (T/CS)

★★★★★

KRONIN, "The First Assault" (989 Cloud Ave., Franklin Square, NY 11010): Tight and lean rock with metallic licks but not an all-out guitar madness display. Kronin seems to concentrate on songwriting and polish, so while there's not a lot on this tape (3 songs) it is consistent and enjoyable. Energetic stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

LAB RAT, "Voiceprint" ($4 from Apraxia Records, PO Box 9545, Colorado Springs, CO 80932): Eek! Is my fuckin' tape deck fucked up? Think of being stuck in a large wind tunnel with howling wherewolves and screaming vultures while an amoeba on a Harley Davidson does 360's on your head. These folks have got some pretty noisy living rooms, that's for sure. (T/TG)

★★★★★

LEGEND KILLERS, "Better Than Hammerin'" ($4 from What Wave, 17 Erie Ave., London, ONT, N6J 1H9, CANADA): First release from the folks who do WHAT WAVE zine, and it';s a good one. Legend Killers are a traditional rock 4-piece who pound out tunes in a hard 60's style with a garage presence. ""Why Must I" is the hot song here; their cover of "Rock and Roll" is flawed by lackluster vocals but otherwise good. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

LE LU\LU'S, "A Gleam in the Designer's Eye" ($6 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan R. Bruun, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): Sharp-edged European techno/synth-pop. What holds it all together as more than just gleaming wallpaper is the female vocals (maybe by Yo-Yo, though the jacket isn't clear). In any case, this is a nice blend of computers and humans, voice over crystal notes over the dance floor. (T/MG)

★★★★★

KEITH LEVENE, "Violent Opposition" ($7 from Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Newton, MA 02166): Fueled by Keith's primo guitar playing and a playfulness that translates into a mix of genres (from reggae to rock to metal), this one is a winner. Keith covers old favorites like "Cold Turkey" and :If Six Was 9", blasts out some extended jams of his own on "2011", and generally tears up the vinyl. PIL lost a bet when Keith left; in a couple of years, his will be the name that gets remembered. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

LOVE LIKE BLOOD, "Sinister Dawn" (Deathwish Office, Ulrichstrasse 14, 7340 Geislingen/Steige, WEST GERMANY): Somewhat eerie, downbeat, gothic rock. There's a mournful sound here, made more occult-sounding by the slightly imperfect English of the lyrics. Their lyrics combine a fascination for death with an awareness of social issues—activism for the all black clothes crowd. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

LOVERS AND OTHER MONSTERS, "In My Mood Balcony" ($5 from 20 Hemenway St. #32, Boston, MA 02115): It starts with a solidly fundamental sense of rock and roll, and then polishes it up with effects to give it a dramatic, slightly haunting (new wave gothic) appeal. It's a combination that works well: the rock gives the songs drive and energy, while the effects create mood and texture. (T/CS)

★★★★★

LUNCHTIME FOR MICROBES, "The Laws of Entropy" (Covert Music, PO Box 5868, Toledo, OH 43613): LFM is Ken Knab's private synth project (with a bit of help from James Overly on one track). There's a manic intensity to his works, a sort of adrenalin-pumping uncertainty that was very evident on "Skies of Smog" and "Escape From Nowhere" Neither easy-listening New Age sludge nor unlistenable experimentalism, but somewhere in the rock-coated center of the field. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GAVIN LURSSEN, self-titled (150 Massachusetts Ave. #46, Boston, MA 02115): Gavin is an advanced student at Berklee College of Music. He utilizes a customized pick-up system, electronic effects and alternate tunings to produce a fairly standard sounding solo acoustic guitar release. Lurssen names his influences as Michael Hedges, Leo Kottke, Al DiMeola and the group Yes (most obvious on "Ricochet", where the opening lick from Yes's "Roundabout" is blatantly lifted). Mostly enjoyable and pleasant, the release could use less regimentation and more experimentation. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

THE MAGNOLIAS, "Dime Store Dream" (Twin\Tone Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404): Take two parts pop, add one part grunge and a sprinkling of punkish lyrics, and you have the Magnolias. Though they don't bother with being politically correct, they have the bred-in-Minnesota strength and power of many better-known bands who've passed through the Twin\Tone label. A great record to just kick back and groove on. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MALBERRIES, self-titled (Malok, PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980): The title here is a portmanteau word; this is a collaboration between Malok and another giant of the experimental underground, Jake Berry. The result is an occasionally rambling collection of noises and music, including freshly generated stuff and lots of found snippets. Like tuning in to the nation's subconscious. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MALLIFE #18 ($6 from Bomb Shelter Propaganda, PO Box 17686, Phoenix, AZ 85011): A collection of experimental audio works, some noise-based, some word-based. The latter include Rupert Wondolewski's "Hell", Al Perry's "May I Speak to the Manager?" and the John Bennett/Byron Smith collaboration "Pico Mojado". There's also work from Floating Concrete Octopus, Chemical Toybox, and Mike Miskowski which sets my head to throbbing. An excellent selection from the best of the current undergrounders. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MAN AND HAMMER, "Recording #10 + 1" ($4 from David Joo, PO Box 33, Stirling City, CA 95978): Crunchy industrial dance synthetic music. It starts off fairly easy, then builds to a crescendo of noise and sampling as the tape continues. The last number, "Humans", is almost melodic, if you can get past the darkly sampled voice. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MANUAL SCAN, "The Lost Sessions" (Get Hip Records, PO Box 666, Canonsburg, PA 15317): Seriously groovin' guitar meets garage underground rock 'n' roll meets drivin' dirge ditties in a beach blanket explosion of bingo pop n' rock. More fun than searching for the prize in a cereal box; lasts longer too. (45/CS)

★★★★★

CHET McCRACKEN, "Flight to Moscow" (Voss Records, Union Bank Tower, 300 Esplanade Dr. #760, Oxnard, CA 93030): McCracken's main claim to fame is as drummer for the Doobie Brothers, but on this release he leads his own collection of musicians in modern electronic funky jazz instrumentals. He plays drums, vibes and keyboards, while the others chime in on guitars, Chapman stick, and "electric MIDI mallet" (whatever *that* is). The music is relaxing and flowing if a bit insipid, and flawlessly produced. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

MDC, "Metal Devil Cokes" ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702-0081): This is the first Boner release I can remember without a promo poster. They probably figured it was strong enough to do without the hype. They're right. MDC can still play killer hardcore, and they do on a bunch of these cuts. They also wander afield to rollicking Irish and C&W parodies. But the best part is their lyrics. From "I Was a Dupe For the RCP" to "I'm A Knucklehead" to "Dirty Harry For President" to "Tofu Spaghetti", they sensibly and outrageously explore a bunch of leftist themes. I'm sold on their talent, and so are a lot of other folks. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MELVINS, "Ozma" ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702-0081): Heavy sludgey stuff sounding something like Queen on prescription tranquilizers. The title (an L. Frank Baum reference, not an Aussie one) seems designed to give a falsely light impression of what you'll find inside. But this is about as far from Carpenters-type sweetness and light as you can get, all pounding sounds and deep bass and ugly vocals. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

MELVINS, "Your Blessend" & "Pronoun Piece Me"($3 from Slap a Ham Records, PO Box 843, San Francisco, CA 94101): Yeah, this is the same band as the above, only this time on a 1000-copy clear plastic flexidisc. The sound quality is pretty good (besides, with this stuff, does it matter?) and they still pack a punch. The first of these songs was recorded live at Gilman, and both are the epitome of sludge rock. (FL/MG)

★★★★★

TONY MENTZER, "The King's Bicycle" ($4 from 101 Sharon Rd., West Middlesex, PA 16159): A mix of poppy, semi-commercial tunes from Tony. The tape starts off in an experimental mode with the confusing audio collage "I need a Pill", then settles down into some funky rock. Later on there's the folky "Away!" (which reminded me of "Blowin' In The Wind") and the whole ends with the bouncy "Big Old Betty". Nice and friendly synthetic stuff. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TONY MENTZER, "Varicose Brains" ($5 from The Space Station, 101 Sharon Rd., West Middlesex, PA 16159): Mindtwisting and sometimes psychedelic, illuminated pieces ranging from folksy little ditties to way-out and very scary experimental monologues & noise creations. Perfect for drifting away to, produces crazy dreams if you happen to slip into slumber. A must-have for the astral traveler. We know what's good for you. (T/CER)

★★★★★

DOUG MICHAEL AND THE OUTER DARKNESS, self-titled (Audiofile Tapes, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): A guitar/bass/drums trio composed of marginal performers. Their compositions plod and seem to hesitate at times as members attempt to get into synch with each other. Various explorations into free improvisation produce orgies of self-expression, but no cohesive musical statement. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

MIND OVER FOUR, "The Goddess" (Massive Sound Recordings, PO Box 86878, Los Angeles, CA 90086): Majestic rock that walks the fine line between metal boredom and simple bombast, mostly successfully. This is music in the operatic tradition, with extended songs, passionate lyrics, and well-developed harmonizing between the various instruments. Pretty nifty. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MODERN ART, "Full Tilt At The Chocolate Factory" ($5.50 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan Bruun, Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): Sometimes gay, sometimes eerie, sometimes downright gothic psychedelia. Modern Art is basically Gary Ramon, except that he gets a bit of vocal help from time to time. This is a dreamy release, with the recording quality not quite the best, but still it sounds right for the material. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE LARRY MONDELLO BAND, "Greatest Hits" (Defoe, PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022): That may be "hits" in the sense of assaulting people rather than int he sense of very popular songs. This is agressive, improv-sounding rock that incorporates a good deal of screaming and doing damage to the melody. You know how some bands smash their instruments after the climactic song? Well, LMB is like that, but without the song. (T/MG)

★★★★★

MOVING MANTELPIECE, "Mythic Moments" ($5 from Kyle Murray, Moving Mantelpiece Productions, 3307 Hampton, Austin, TX 78705): Electronic music with classical overtones in the gentle melodic way it's presented. The notes fall one after another, each one leaning into the next, creating a musical domino effect. I waver between thinking of this as subtle background music or as soundtrack music (which tends to command a bit more attention). It's minimalistic in its use of spare patterns which are repeated throughout a song, yet the lyrics are more on the order of oral interpretive art than "song" lyrics as we expect them and the overall feel is richer than that of most minimalistic music. (T/CS)

★★★★★

MOVING TARGETS, "Brave Noise" (Taang!, PO Box 51, Auburndale, MA 02166): You can't help but like this. It picks you up and sweeps you along with a tidal wave of grungey, wailing, clanging guitars; insistent rhythms and soaring, scratchy, upbeat vocals. It's all executed with total authority—this is a band that knows what they're doing. Interestingly enough they reminded me a little of Mission of Burma. Beyond the geographical and label ties, it was in the unafraid way the band lets the melody speak for itself, the creative use of control versus "garage wildness" and the different twists and turns of the tunes. (T/CS)

★★★★★

MUDHONEY, self-titled (Sub Pop, PO Box 20645, Seattle, WA 98102): Jammin' blues that knocks gods off their pedestals with a "heavier than thou" sound and a grim and grimy outlook. Mudhoney are big and fuzzy, like a mutant lintball in your belly button that comes to dominate your daily activities (and your turntable). Quite simply, this record kicks ass, even if it does sound a little . . . dated. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

MUDHONEY, self-titled (Sub Pop Records, PO Box 20645, Seattle, WA 98102): Mud, dirt, or grunge. Whatever you want to call it, this band doesn't just wade in up to their knees, they jump in all the way and roll around for a while. Grungelike guitars turned up all the way will recalls the power of the Stooges, but Mark Arm is no Iggy Pop, and the band have an energy and sound that is all their own. Yet another great band from an underrated but thriving Seattle scene. Don't miss out. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

NARAM SIN, "Daisies" (Small Tools Tradition, PO Box 8005, Suite 239, Boulder, CO 80306-8005): The stark black and white cover of this album hints at what's inside: a sort of cross between industrial and hard rock. There's a lot of noise here, pounding, growling, that sometimes overwhelms the song. But there are also high-energy jams which are definitely in the rock arena. Musical chameleons, Naram Sin manage to do a lot to the ears. Good for late nights and hard times. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

NO MAN/NO MAN'S BAND, "Damage the Enemy" ($7.50 from New Alliance Records, PO Box 1389, Lawndale, CA 90260): No Man is Roger Miller; the band adds Russ Smith on Bass and Ken Winokur on percussion (on the solo pieces Roger uses sampled industrial noise as a percussion track, but it's hard to tell). There are flashes of interest in these instrumentals, but mostly it just sounds like Miller is trying to figure out what to record next. There's a lack of polish and direction in this release that makes it more of an intriguing curiosity and hint at future directions than anything else. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

NOMEANSNO, "Wrong" (Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): This is one of those "what is it" records that when stripped of its hardcore veneer reveals a mountain of influence. This has elements of jazz, rock, funk, punk and gospel working together in near-perfect synch. Tight-as- a-drum riffs open into inspirational vocal sections and then go back again into the the signature staccato rhythm. Lyrically, it's pretty direct, with lies, unhappiness and breakdowns occupying a good amount of space. This one goes into the "listen to over and over again" pile. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

M. NOMIZED, "In Search of Shade" ($5.50 from Jan Bruun, Hypertonia World Enterprises, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): Ambient synthesizer music and electronic noise pieces from France. Relaxing and pretty in places, cacophonous and unsettling in others. Some intriguing and offbeat titles translate literally into "Controlled Speed", "All the Doors" and "Dance of the Grass Blades." The English blurb reads "This tape is the result of several woks, different styles, sounds or musics...bye!" A lovely and ethereal electronic tape. (T/DW)

INDEPENDENT
MUSIC GUIDE
"A Publication of the Independent Music Network"
Over 100 Member Artists
The Independent Music Network is
dedicated to the promotion of all types of
independent music. For a FREE catalog and
membership application write to:
INDEPENDENT MUSIC NETWORK
P.O. Box 3516 • Carbondale , IL • 62902

★★★★★

ROBT OMLIT, "There is nothing wrong with me that a thick gob of Grease on the end of your dick wouldn't cure" (PO Box 127, Anaheim, CA 92185-0127): Detestable. With the title of the tape, and such songs as "Peter's Peter", "Dick's Dick", "Sodomy", "Hoover" (c'mon, use your imagination), "Dance in My Mouth" and "Get Set", it's not hard to discern the subject matter. Omlit uses these songs, however, as vehicles for his homophobic fears. The lyrics and high pitched whiny vocals all move towards the goal of ridiculing male homosexuality, equating it with two queens going at it. I have never heard so much hatred expressed all at once and at 26 songs, he seems to have gotten himself worked up. One can only wonder if this were a class project for the KKK. Disturbing. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

ORANGE ROUGHIES, "Knuckle Sandwich" (Nocturnal Records, PO Box 19550, Detroit, MI 48219): Despite the title and the locale, this one mellows its Motor City rock power with a hefty dose of milder, U2/REM-ish flavor. The result is an intriguing mix, silk over steel, well-produced and worth hearing. I really liked the not-quite-cynical "Pure And Simple" look at today's youth and the almost-angry, almost-resigned "I Hear" with its foreboding of a worse future. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

OUR AMERICAN COUSINS, "Nitro Baby" b/w "Only In My Head" (Chop Suey Records, 1186 Broadway #611, New York, NY 10001): The first record from these folks, and probably not the last. They play a dark underground sound that's layered into a thicket of sludgey guitars and dense drumming. The A side is really heavy; the flip is more relaxed, a lighter end to the record, but only by comparison. (45/MG)

★★★★★

PARADOX, "A Whole New Groove" ($6 from Carl Howard - aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Studio space rock with all sorts of wild noises and a groove that just won't quit. At times they move towards the sound of improv jazz, at times they get a little experimental with found sounds and vocal overlays. But mostly this is just swooping punching fast-paced noises that never let up. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PBK, "A Noise Supreme" (115 W. 33rd, San Bernardino, CA 92405): The Coltrane influence in the title is obvious, the influence on the music is more subtle. The release is composed of analog synthesis and digital synthesis sides. The analog side begins with soft, subdued tones and progresses to a pleasant noise crescendo punctuated by a staccato distortion loop. The digital side evokes more of the spirit of Coltrane with its evocative noise melodies integrated with a slight digital keyboard feel. A fitting tribute that is highly recommended. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

PEACE AND FREEDOM, "Animal Music" (Paul Rance, 17 Farrow Road, Whaplode Drive, Spalding, S. Lincs., PE12 0TS, UK): A band of several personalities. The tape starts off really strong with the first two tracks ("Nature" and "30th Century") reminding me vaguely of The Arms of Someone New, with electronics, mellow guitar, and distant and cold vocals. Other tracks however start out of the blue, end abruptly, meander off into chaos or fall out of tune. Some good stuff here if you're willing to sort through some painful material as well. (T/LJC)

★★★★★

THE JOHN PERETTA PROJECT, self-titled (7325 1st Ave. #1, Montreal, PQ, H2A 3J5, CANADA): Poppish music that's about the closest thing to bubble-gum that I've heard lately. This doesn't mean that it's entirely dismissable, but Peretta's mix of guitar, keyboards and slightly jazzy arrangements lacks some of the punch that rockers may be accustomed to. "Secrets on Your Pillow" shines out as the best track here, with an appealing verve. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PIECE OF WOOD, "Square Peg In a Round Hole" ($15 Algonquin Rd., Holmdel, NJ 07733): There's no special reason for this to be on CD—it's only a half hour long and the quality, while decent, is not pin-dropping spectacular. I guess vinyl really is dying. However, don't let that prejudice you against the band; there are some cool songs here, especially if dropping too much acid and getting paranoid makes you happy. Their own "Mr. Evans" and "That Dream" set the mood, all anxiety and guitars; their driving cover of "Horse With No Name" seals the listener's fate. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

PINK SLIP DADDY, "LSD" (Apex/Skyclad, 6 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): This one lies somewhere between "novelty" and "collector's item". It's a 10-inch record on thick pink vinyl. The A side is mastered to play backwards, from the inside out, and plays at 45 RPM. The 33 RPM B side has two parallel groves (similar to a Monty Python record I recall). The music? Oh, yeah. It's sort of roots rock, tinged with rockabilly, and with all three songs having a psychedelic message. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

MARC PLAINGUET, "Surrealism for Beginners" ($6 from PO Box 1260, Youngstown, OH 44501): Instrumentals skipping through a maelstrom of emotions and impressions. Reminiscent of work like that by Kitaro and Phillip Glass, but more earthy, scratchy...mischievous. As though the "Silk Road" had taken a wrong turn at Pismo Beach and wound up in a mind-game landscape where anything can happen. (T/CS)

★★★★★

PLASTIC EYE MIRACLE, "Ed Wood's Living Room" (75CENTS from Doug Wofsey, 2866 Kipling NW, Massillon, OH 44646): Crazy cut-up music and found sounds with industrial dance rhythms behind it. PEM is Doug and Michael Gonzalez, bopping around through soundspace and trying out new ideas. Some of the things they do to cultural icons—like pro wrestling and anti-drug commericals—are amazing. (T/MG)

★★★★★

PLATE, "We're Name Is Plate" ($6 from 112 S. Pine St., Richmond, VA 23220): A hearty slab of rock blessed with a goodly amount of punk DNA. Though don't look for any rigid formulas here as these folks display a pretty well rounded musical vocabulary. Challenging musicianship and intelligently humorous lyrics render cuts both playful and memorable; while trippy riffwork nicely styles this well-produced, high quality recording. Bonus points for the cover art. (T/JM)

★★★★★

POISON IDEA, "Just to Get Away" b/w "Kick Out The Jams" ($6 from PO Box 86333, Portland, OR 97286-0333): A two-sided picture disc featuring this hardcore band in all its tacky glory. Not many hardcore bands could get away with covering MC5, but they do it with style, and these two songs are a blast of energy, choppy lyrics, and punk energy. Portland seems to be producing a lot of loud grungey worthwhile bands lately, which I certainly appreciate. Your mother won't like it at all. (45/MG)

PORKOPOLIS

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Volume 1: 1989 Porkopolis Cassette Compilations" ($3 each, $12 for set of five tapes from Porkopolis, PO Box 3529, Cinti, OH 45201):

★★★★★

PK0001, "Gloria" Mostly stuff from the rockabilly-garage-surf- punk school, with the Hellcats, Snare & the Idiots, Hates, and Jaywalker all checking in. There's a couple from Porkopolis faves Peppermint Subway plus Dunter Bogan, Bluck and more. This one has fairly consistent rock roots throughout, with individual diversions keeping it interesting. (T/TG)

★★★★★

PK0002, "Peas and Carrots" This is a mixed bag with early '80s style arty disco from Neil Smith, speed pop from Zen Bovine, a few "punk" songs from Poland's Zima (sounds more like primitive new wave to me), Peppermint Subway, Love Calvin, and more. The overall effect is so-so. (T/TG)

★★★★★

PK0003, "Hodgepodge Misery" This has tight speed metal from Black Ritual, layered elevator music from Colorslam, Crunchy power-pop from Peppermint Subway and Chia Pet Complex, who have an early punk sound with some metal guitar solos. A bunch more stuff, too. (T/TG)

★★★★★

PK0004, "Open Thy Mind" There's some mind-opening stuff here from the synth samples of Shawn Swaggerty, free form jazz noise of Tom Furgas, 555 sounding a little like Daniel Johnstone and D'Zoid with gloomy experimental noise. Plus more from college radio sounds from Peppermint Subway and Anthrax-esque metal from Black Ritual. The Real Americans check in as well. (T/TG)

★★★★★

PK0005, "Here's Looking At You" This has spooky psycho-trash from the Real Americans, some generic college rock from Love Calvin, screaming crossover from Expatriate, smarmy art rock from Neil Smith. I liked Crash-N-Burn, who funk up the joint pretty good, 24-7 Spyz style. Plus there's synth noise from The Black Flowers and more. (T/TG)

★★★★★

PORN ORCHARD, "Heart and Brain Raw" (PO Box 189, Athens, GA 30603): Raw and gnarly rock designed to make an impact. If these three guys thought you weren't listening they'd probably wallop you over the head with their instruments instead. Plenty of angst, lyrics that don't seem to make sense, tortuous dissonance and an overall very dark sound make up the ambience that is Porn Orchard. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

POSTER CHILDREN, "Flower Power" (Limited Potential Records, PO Box 268586, Chicago, IL 60626): Raw and powerful pop with all the illusions sloughed off. This batch is capable of sweet and pretty, but often they forgo that to get into still sweet but more exciting. I especially liked "Hollywood", a nice rocking tune. We'll be hearing these folks on the radio, I'm sure. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PREMATURE EJACULATION, "Death Cultures III" (The Happiest Place On Earth, 4391 Sunset Blvd. #235, Los Angeles, CA 90029): Intense industrial music, combining tortured guitar, edge of madness synths, percussion and found sounds. The texture of the music/noise changes constantly, sometimes settling down to a primitive chanting, others flying to the most modern computeristic arena. They seem completely unconcerned with making a good impression; the only goal is to make a strong one. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE PRIMITIVES, "Pure" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Well-done mass-market pop imported from England. While they do have some harder riffs hiding in here, this is primarily a vehicle to display Tracy Tracy'[s sweet voice in front of a backdrop of fuzzy neo-psychedelia. Nothing deep here, but there are times when you really don't want anything deep. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

BILL PRITCHARD, "Three Months, Three Weeks & Two Days" (Nettwerk/IRS Records, 3939 Lankershim Blvd., N. Hollywood, CA 91604): On the surface it seems to be a misty, lush almost ambient musical work. But delve deeper and there's more—a dance music with wittily sophisticated European overtones, an introspective approach with bittersweet humor, carefully crafted harmonies, and a sensuously gentle air which dissolves the edges of even the harder rock numbers. Be sure not to miss the lyrics; they provide the backbone to much of the softness here. (T/CS)

★★★★★

PSYCHONAUTS, "Visions of Life After Death" (Laughing Moon Records, 2211 Hannon St., Hyattsville, MD 20783): Tense, edgy pop-rock with great lyrics and lots of bouyant energy. "City of Brotherly Love" goes after those who've made competition the American Dream, while "Debbie Meets the Shaman" is an odd romp through mythical actions. The album cover opens up into a lyric sheet and then a full-size b&w psychedelic poster. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

PUBLIC HUMILIATION, "It All Started When I Was Five" ($6 from Paul Shuirman, PO Box 5892, Orange, CA 92613-5892): Sixteen songs of spunky rock with humorous lyrics. Among the earthshaking questions considered here are the wonders of ham radio, pepperoni pizza, and "The Toilet Seat Is Always Wet". "She's Normal" is a love song that for once doesn't rise to frenzied heights of exsaggeration. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

RATOS DE PORAO, "Brasil" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Their name translates as "Basement Rats", and these Brazilian dudes play punk/thrash/metal crossover like it never went out of style. Their songs are in the traditional mode as well: "Drink Til You Die", "Suicidal Heroin" and "Bloody Pigs" are three of their titles. Fast-paced with grinding vocals from tattooed pot-bellied Gordo, this will bring back memories of those halcyon punk days. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

R.C., "Brown Cow" ($5 from Airburst Productions, PO Box 993, Chambersburg, PA 17201): Well, thrash isn't dead yet; these guys cram 14 songs on to one 7" record. They say "Warning: This will seriously damage your mind!", and if the music doesn't do it, the lyrics will. They're set up to offend most anyone, notably feminists, those opposed to the public use of swear words, and liberals of all stripes. I suspect the racism, sexism and homophobia in these lyrics is meant in joke, but that doesn't make it much easier to bear. On the other hand, they also throw in a couple of strong anti-nuke and anti-war songs. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

RED HERRING, "Stiffy" (Elixir Records, 1023 Spruce St. #5, Philadelphia, PA 19107): Self-produced rock, fairly fast, with some psychedelic touches. The main intent here seems to be to have a good time, and they accomplish that, blowing 13 songs by in a whirlwind of guitar solos, harmonies, and screwball lyrics. Check out "Surrealistic Futon" and "Guilt Cleanse". (LP/MG)

★★★★★

KARL REHN, "electrophonic" ($4 from 3001 Stardust Dr., Austin, TX 78757): Pretty offensive all-electronic one-man "instrumental jazz project" (courtesy of MacIntosh and MIDI) that sounds like the kind of library soundtrack music used on network TV: very slick, very polished, and utterly devoid of originality. Even Rehn's interpolation of "Round Midnight" and "Body and Soul" (ostensibly a decent idea) is lackluster. All talent and no imagination. (T/KS)

★★★★★

THE RESIDENTS, "The King And I" (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): More madness from the mysterious Residents. On this one, the lead vocals are from an aging, boozed-up, broken-down Elvis impersonator, covering 16 of the King's gold records in idiosyncratic fashion. Spliced in are ruminations on "the baby king", exploring the place of Elvis in the American mythos. Well off the beaten path, and alternately aggravating and delightful. (T/MG)

★★★★★

REVELATION, "Final Daze" ($5 from Revelation Enterprizes, PO Box 9303, Washington, DC 20005): Fairly undistinguished sort of hard rock/dance music that may have a message buried in it. The B side, all one cut called "Victims of Illusion" does rise to a few interesting experimental sampling moments. But mostly this cassette EP just doesn't take hold. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DAVID THOMAS ROBERTS, "New Orleans Streets". (B&W Sound Recording Co., Lockbox 97, Jackson Heights, NY 11372): A "Suite for Piano" divided into 15 sections, mostly named after streets in New Orleans. Not having the slightest familiarity with the city, I have no idea how well Roberts captures its spirit. But this is pleasant and relaxing music, sort of slow ragtime in places, upbeat waltz in others. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ROBINSON, "To Be Free" and "Awake Now" (PO Box 472, Lenox Hill Stn., New York, NY 10021): This one arrived with a poster indicating that it's excerpts from a new CBS album by this bunch—and that's it. They do decent enough rock, in a U2-ish mode, but there doesn't seem to be a whole lot to recommend their anthems over anyone else's. And releasing a two-song full-size CD seems downright weird. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

ROOTS RADICS, "Hot We Hot Dub" (ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): Technically awesome nearly pure-instrumental dub (with vocals on only two tracks, including "Joy to the World Dub", easily one of the best Christmas songs I've heard this holiday season). Dub is sorta like distilled reggae, with lots of overdubs and studio wizardry. Here it's used to make a full sound, with lots of brass and plenty of bass, even fuller. Cool music for any time. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DONALD RUBINSTEIN, "The Witness" (Route 2 Box 285, Santa Fe, NM 87505): Sort of laid-back Christian Contemporary Music. The A side here is made up of 5 relaxed songs, sort of light rock, with messages of witness and faith. The flip is all isntrumentals, some in a classical mode, some bouncier and more modern. Very polished and relaxed. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE RUDY SCHWARTZ PROJECT, "Salmon Dave" (Joe Newman, 5404 Ave. F, Austin, TX 78751-1311): More one-man madness from Joe. He does covers of some classic cartoon songs, a great doo-wop version of "Every Breath You Take", and lots of songs about current events. The latter include "Jimmy Swaggart" and "I'm No Prude, But Some Things Should Just Be Banned", attacking the PMRC. It's all put together with wacky music from hard rock to Spike Jones. Joe says this is his last tape; I hope he changes his mind. (T/MG)

★★★★★

ROBERT RUTMAN, "1939" ($9.50 from Pogus Productions, 151 First Ave. #201, New York, NY 10003): Rutman works in steel, creating "sound sculptures" which are meant to be looked at as well as played. You can't see them here, but you can hear their eerie, vaguely Indian (this perception is helped by the accompaniment on tabla and Tibetan horn) sounds on this record. Rutman's music is dense and ponderous, improvisational but in no hurry to be flashy. It takes some getting used to. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

SANITY ASSASSINS, demo tape (PO Box 18152, East Hartford, CT 06118): Is there such a thing as melodic grunge? I guess there must be, because I just listened to six songs of it from this new three-piece, featuring Keith Grave (x-Dispossessed) on bass. The recording quality is only demo-average, but the songs themselves are worth a listen, pounding out some barely constrained energy and some nice psychedelic touches. Watch for a single on Tombstone soon. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SHARK ISLAND, "Law of the Order" (Epic, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): Shark Island is a very big, traditional arena-rock band, pumping out plenty of wattage and guitar solos. Their songwriting seems to focus a lot on sex and relationships, and in songs like "Passion to Ashes" and "Bad for Each Other" they seem to be promoting a withdrawal from sexual freedom. But most of their listeners won't notice; they'll be too busy screaming and dancing around. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SHRINKWRAP, "I've Fallen...And I Can't Get UP!" (Audio-Sadism, PO Box 11831, Pittsburgh, PA 15228): A limited edition 2-song tape—tough stuff rock. The first number will seem a contentious rodent gnawing its way from inside your brain (a secluded grave wherein lie the remains of very early Swans and Big Black). The other cut grooves a bit quicker, but with equally

AMERICAN DISSENT in the age of Ca-CA
Tie-dyed to the whipping post-modern
unique protest/anti-test music...
* 3 MILE ISLAND BLUES * ROSA * SET *
* OFF THE CHARTS * and more...
solo and band cassettes / $7 each
CHARLES RICK KELLY - CLOSET STUDIOS
PO 11304 DALLAS, TEXAS 75223

corrosive excess. Throughout both, whirly power saw guitars gnash their formidable teeth. Hallmarked with competent production. (T/JM)

★★★★★

SHRINKWRAP, "Smear" ($4 from Audio-Sadism, PO Box 11831, Pittsburgh, PA 15228): A live industrial/gothic recording, full of shouting and pounding and rhythms that go on and on. The audience reaction is pretty high, and the band sounds like they're having a good time. Something to appeal to the destructive impulses in us all. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SIN DROME/FACTOR 42, "Sin Factor" (General Purpose Cassettes, PO Box 85, Landenberg, PA 19350): A split tape of eerie music. Sin Drome's stuff is close to being industrial dance music, with lots of artificial sound and a jarring presence. Factor 42 has somewhat more range, from morbid songs about death ("Sky Burial", discussing traditional Hindu practices) to gentler, almost New Agish instrumentals. Overall, this is a very high quality release, with nice packaging and contact info as well as good aggressive music. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SISTER RAY, "Psycho Sis" b/w "Bathroom Blues" (Ajax Records, PO Box 146882, Chicago, IL 60614): No, Bunkie, the seven-inch single is not dead. This tasty hunk of guitars and vocals comes to you on cherry-red vinyl in a numbered edition of 2000 from one of the labels that's dedicated to keeping the format alive. Sister Ray play great, crunchy rock, with lyrics that leave one wondering whether this is not a polite party to be at after all. I like 'em. (45/MG)

★★★★★

SLATCH, "Welcome to the 90's" ($4 from PO Box 1907, Hurst, TX 76053): They call it "Lizard-rock"; probably the closest widely-recognized genre is hardcore, though they do slow down when they see the need and bring in some Southwest energy. Best cut here is "Dead-Man", which is in fact the best anti-work number I've heard lately, and a good showcase for the band's talents, with everything meshing just so. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SLAUGHTER SHACK, self-titled (Xena Media Manipulations, 21 Spy Pond Pkwy., Arlington, MA 02174): A raw, almost primal cross between punk and metal that throbs with fierce savagery. Each song follows closely into the next one until it all seems to merge together into a roughly hewn energetic whole. It's not pretty, and it isn't meant to be. It's street music: tough, no bullshit, put up or else, defiant and aggressive. (T/CS)

★★★★★

LINDA SMITH, "Love Songs for Laughs" (2117 St. Paul St. #2R, Baltimore, MD 21218): A very simple tape, with Linda singing (sometimes multi-tracked) over minimal, almost folky instrumentation. Her lyrics make this special—little slices of life and love and laughter, stories from a child's eyes, I got more and more fascinated as the tape continued and I'm convinced this is one of the hottest things in this issue, music that tells a story and is a pleasure to listen to. What more could you want? (T/MG)

★★★★★

SOCIETY GONE MADD, "What Do You Care?" (VIable UTterance Records, PO Box 4191, Burbank, CA 91503): A straightforward hardcore effort with crisp guitars, thoughtful lyrics and a California punk sound that moves from moderate to extra fast. The lyrics pull this one together, especially in "Segregation, Separation," a simple plea to "tear down America's version of the Berlin" but which warns "desegregate, but don't overdo it/so it ends up in reverse discrimination." It's an endless struggle, and Society Gone Madd at least *try* to make some sense of it. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

SOCKEYE/THAT CHEEZY SENSATION, untitled ($3.50 from David Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): Blue split 7" EP from two bands who prove the hardcore scene shows no signs of fading from the musical melee. Both bands play loud, angry music about Calvin punks, straight-edges, vegetarians and other people they want to offend; both seem to have fun doing it. You'll enjoy the results. (EP/DW)

★★★★★

SOULSIDE, "Hot Bodi-Gram" ($6 from Dischord Records, 3819 Beecher St. NW, Washington, DC 20007): I have to admit that I've been out of touch with Dischord of late so I looked forward to get the feel of what it's like jamming to a hardcore album. But no way! "Hot Bodi-Gram" is distorted feedback bite size bursts of songs that bring to mind lots of people: Buck Pets, New Model Army, Dinosaur Jr. Soulside has the bark of a hardcore group but with the 80's spark of Buffalo Tom. The lyrics are simple and the vocals are a little bit overdone but I was surprised by this work. Something to reckon with. (LP/KB)

★★★★★

SPIDERBABY, self-titled (Deco Records, PO Box 88175, Los Angeles, CA 90010): A new band based out of Hollywood has emerged with a promising disc. The four song effort is pop material with a strong reference to the

Records & Stuff We Sell:

45. FUGAZI 'Repeater' & '3 Songs' CD Ⓓ
44. FUGAZI 'Repeater' LP † Ⓐ
43. FUGAZI '3 Songs' 7" Ⓒ
41. FIDELITY JONES 'Piltdown Lad' † Ⓑ
40. MINOR THREAT CD has every song! Ⓓ
39. IGNITION 'Orafying Mysticle' EP † Ⓑ
38. SOULSIDE 'Hot Bodi-Gram' LP † Ⓐ
37. FIRE PARTY 'New Orleans Opera' † Ⓑ
36. FUGAZI CD combines No.s 30 & 35 Ⓓ
35. FUGAZI 'Margin Walker' EP † Ⓑ
34. SOULSIDE 3-song 7" Ⓒ
33. THREE (3) 'Dark Days Coming' LP † Ⓐ
32. STATE OF THE UNION BENEFIT SAMPLER † Ⓐ
31. IGNITION 'Machination' † Ⓐ
30. FUGAZI 7-song EP † Ⓑ
29. SOULSIDE 'Trigger' † Ⓐ

† Also available as cassette.

Price Guide, including postage, in U.S. $:

	U.S.A.	Canada	OverSea	OverAir
Ⓐ	6.00	7.00	7.00	11.00
Ⓑ	5.00	6.00	6.00	10.00
Ⓒ	3.00	3.50	4.00	6.00
Ⓓ	9.00	10.00	10.00	12.00

Stores: We like to deal direct! Drop us a line...

DISCHORD

Please send us a stamp for a full list of records.

3819 BEECHER ST. NW, WASH., D.C. 20007

Ramones ("Pilsner Song") but with a greater value on the keyboards. "About Her" stood out among the rest on account of everything just clicking. I hear a little bit of the Pixies in there; the only problem is that the vocals are mixed too low for my taste. You might hear from this band in the near future but with Spiderbaby time is what they need to gel into a better band. (EP/KB)

★★★★★

SPIKE, "Save The Children" ($5.50 from The Furnace Room, 10556 Lincoln St. SE, East Canton, OH 44730): This is a recording of a live concert Spike gave in 1981 to benefit the pro-life group Birthright. It's unabashed evangelical Christian folkie rock, with a heavy and direct message. Spike sings of the children, ending with "Let Them Live", a song which reserves to God the right to "call them home". Very mellow music and a nice sound, but people will love it or hate it based on their politics and religion. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SQUELCH, "South of Hayward" ($4 from 1738A Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94117): Fast and loud rock music from a three-piece that seems to feel the guitar solo is the heart of rock—an attitude that's sometimes hard to argue with. Lyrcis are sometimes silly ("Rock Star Sneakers") and sometimes traditionally punk in their warnings about society ("Auto Pilot"). I expect these guys will get signed soon enough; I've heard lots worse on the indie labels. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RUSS STEDMAN, "Hi Honey...Drop Dead" (311 1/2 N. Main #301, Mitchell, SD 57301): Good natured rough & tumbled around the edges grunge rock coming at you via electronic instruments that aren't afraid to play and be heard. Though it's upbeat and kind of catchy, it's definitely aggressive and it's got bite. Around that swirl warped noises and bent sounds that lend an experimental air to it. (T/CS)

★★★★★

SUEDOE, "Octovo Macabre" ($5 from Videospeak Productions, PO Box 751912, Memphis, TN 38175): A suite of macabre music to go with the included pamphlet of macabre images, which was offered previously without music. List price is $7, but it's only $5 if you mention FF, or $4 if you already bought the pamphlet. It's a well-done experience, all working together to produce a heightened sensitivity and bring Death into your living room.(T/MG)

★★★★★

SUN RA AND HIS ARKESTRA, "Out There a Minute" (Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231): The CD version of Sun Ra's own selection of his classic tracks from the 60's, issued jointly with Blast First and containing one more track than the LP. This is great addictive jazz, full of spacy sounds and rock sensibilities, wandering off into sheer noise but always coming back to a core of pulsating, horn-heavy energy. If you know Sun Ra, you want this; if not, you might want to find out what you're missing. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

THE SWINGING ERUDITES, "Pretentious Crapola" ($7.25 from One-Dimensional Records, PO Box 1926, Harvard Sq. Stn., Cambridge, MA 02238): A record of wild cover versions and silly parody tunes, including one which even takes some shots at parody bands. Their most offensive number is probably the extended Village People tribute "Disco Lives!"; their funniest, the ode to the big-hair set, "The Hoodsie Rap". The Captain and Tenille, Sonny and Cher, and Joy Division get theirs, and side two starts off with lounge crooner versions of a bunch of old punk stanbys. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

THE SYMPTOMS, "West" (What Hiss Music Co., PO Box 24155, Winston-Salem, NC 27114-4155): This is only two guys but it sounds like half a dozen bands. They start out with some roots rock, but don't stay there for long, ranging back and forth from experimental to near gothic to intense emotional schmaltzy things and further afield. The talent is there, but the lack of unity makes it a bit confusing. Worth a listen, then tape off the songs you like. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TAD, "Salt Lick" (Sub Pop Records, 1932 1st Ave. #1103, Seattle, WA 98101): Another slab of sound from the Meat Loaf of the 90's. Actually, while Tad has some of the Loaf's build, he doesn't bother with the snappy lyrics and rock operatic arrangements. Instead, this is bass-heavy turgid rock, with growling, babbling vocals slathered heavily on top. It doesn't matter that the words are hopelessly muddled since it's the experience that's important here. Like being sat on by an elephant. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

THE TECHNOPRIMATIVES, self-titled (£1.99 from Sorcerer Sound Productions, 34 Bassingham Rd., Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 4RL, UK): Synthesizer and SFX experimentation that doesn't really seem to get anywhere. There's a halting feel to this tape, as one gets watching a cat creep slowly into a new area and then draw back, time and again, to analyze what's going on. Every once in a while they rise to some level of excitement, but quickly cool once again. For collectors of new combinatoric possibilities only. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THELEMONADE RETROSPECTIVE, "Awftershawk" ($4 from We Press, PO Box 1503, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): Mutant music-poetry recorded in earthquake-shaken Santa Cruz only a few days after the ground moved. Eerie slow-moving musical lines combine with somewhat portentous vocals to produce a late-night psychic feast. The words here are directed at everything from love to politics, and are unsettling throughout. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THREE LEGGED DOG, self-titled ($3 from Tim Aynard, 1201 E. Ash, Columbia, MO 65201): This three song single showcases a variety of styles. The title track is a bluesy number, full of crunchy guitars and dog howls. "Hate School" is a revved up song with some Black Flag riffs, while "Spinning Whirl", the real gem here, harkens to a Minuteman funkiness. Not the most original work, but you can't blame anyone for being influenced by others. Also the sound quality is better than the band thinks. (45/LJC)

★★★★★

TOUCH, "Ritual" ($10 from 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, UK): A young reviewer puts a tape into the tape deck, flicks the switch...and is instantly transported into a twilight zone of bent ideas and twisted styles. The host for this aural exploration is a group of Pygmy Rod Serlings, distant relations to Fritz Lang and Blixa Bargeld, bred in cold European industrial wastelands and raised on media overload. An interesting trip that promises to expand your horizons and open your ears. (T/CS)

★★★★★

TRAGIC MULATTO, "Hot Man Pussy" ($7 from Alternative Tentacles Records, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): These SF long-timers have an ambience composed of roughly equal parts of rudeness and noise. Fascinated with sex and excrement, they express themselves through a mix of instruments and styles, owing some to rock and some to industrial. The results range from a version of "Whole Lotta Love" even worse than the one your little brother's cover band used to crank after school to the tuba and banjo madness of "The Sheriff of Weed". (LP/MG)

★★★★★

TRIPTIC OF A PASTEL FERN, "The Crushing Evanescence" ($6 from Poison Plant Music, 7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 200854): This stuff comes at you and comes at you on a runaway locomotive of cycling electronic shimmies and repetitive sledgehammer percussion, pauses momentarily for sequences of brilliantly annoying gibberish, then kicks back into gear—again and again and again until you force yourself to stop turning the tape over and popping it back into the deck. No joke. Music without riffs for brains without frontiers. Order yours today. (T/KS)

★★★★★

TRIPTIC OF A PASTEL FERN, "Fisty Stealth" ($5 from Poison Plant Music, 7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854): Very aggressive electronic rock (or perhaps rock opera—there's an operatic majesty about this release). Several cuts here are strong enough to leave an uneasy feeling in the pit of the stomach, notably "Livingly Harsh" and "Fisty Opera"; it's almost as if the music has a biological component. Certainly a long way from New Age easy listening synth pap. (T/MG)

★★★★★

TRUST OBEY, "Rip Saw" ($4 to John Bergin, 4503 Washington St., Kansas City, MO 64111): This is a high quality mutation of experimental/industrial noise and spooky gloom rock. It's screams and heavily distorted guitars throughout, with dripping ozone rhythms and part of a broadcast from the Rosenberg execution (the part where they talk about having to give Ethel a second shot). Hypnotic and frightening, Trust Obey produces mood music for mass murderers. (T/TG)

★★★★★

THE U-KREW, self-titled (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): I don't know if anyone else would recognize this as a genre, but I call U-Krew's music "hard rap". They're clearly in the rap/hip-hop arena, but their sound is tougher, approaching heavy metal in spots. Standouts include the strong anti-cocaine "Pick Up the Pieces" and the driving, scratch-laden "Rock That Shit". If regular rap is too wimpy for you, try the U-Krew. (T/MG)

★★★★★

JASON UNDERGROUND, "Under An Extra Tent" ($4.50 from The Furnace Room, 10556 Lincoln St. SE, East Canton, OH 44730): Folk music recorded in part around a campfire. The lyrics are a social consciousness/Christian mix (i.e., help the oppressed but no abortions). Included are a revamped edition of "This Land is Your Land" and "The Prophet" about a street-corner prophet. (T/CER)

★★★★★

UNSTABILITY, self-titled (4 Henry St., Lakewood, NJ 08701): These guys sound like a younger version of Ministry. The same relentless drums, industrial noises and tortured Al Jourgensen-style vocals. The accompanying lyrics booklet and sophomoric "Dr. Drool" comic dwell on overworked anti-establishment topics like yuppie scum, psychological illness, etc. Not particularly original. (T/DW)

★★★★★

THOMAS VAN DYKE, "This is Not Heaven" (Esync Ocular Interchange, PO Box 380621, Miami, FL 33238): Fast-paced earnest pop-edged rock that bounces around. Van Dyke has a good voice and decent songwriting, and a few numbers that stick, especially the closing "Don't Put Me On Hold" that captures both the pace and frustration of modern life. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Amnesty International Benefit Compilation" ($7 from Rex Records, 112 Donbury Rd., Resitertown, MD 21136): A live compilation tape featuring four bands: Black Friday, Sunday Cannons, The Pearlfishers and The Unknown. They're all generally in the guitar rock arena, with the melodic, dense rock of the Pearlfishers my favorite. There's a mix of dance number and activist tunes here, and the recording is impeccable. Proceeds to benefit Amnesty International, of course. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Beware of the Savage Cud" ($3 from Craig Blomquist, Cud Brain Tapes, 48 Beck, Lindenhurst, IL 60046): A pretty wide-ranging compilation tape of relative unknowns. I got a kick out of the deranged country-punk of Danny Sleeze, especially "All You Commies (Eat me Raw)". Other contributors include Col. Tom and the Epstein Brothers and White China, a mostly instrumental, experimental bunch. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Danses Macabres" (Headkleaner c/o Jerome Roemer, 38 Boulevard de Lyon, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): A mostly strong collection of an electronic variety with entries presented by artists mainly from France, but from Germany and England as well. The selections variously caress, groove, pop, lumber, shine and bite. Accolades and name dropping: X Ray Pop give a hot little number with a captivating rhythm and a nice display of the French language; Likid Wesel chortles some hypnotic Lovecraftian splendor; Hermaphrodisiak weaves an Arabic sonic mosaic. Other artists include Random Confusion, The Detective, Deaf Goes East. Pretty good stuff. (T/JM)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Ecstasy By Current II" (Schizophonia, Grossbeerenstr. 90, 1000 Berlin 61, WEST GERMANY): A collection of experimental and industrial noises from all over the world. This includes Illusion of Safety from the US, Vidna Obmana from Belgium, and In Slaughter Natives from Sweden. Japan's Dissecting Table closes it all off with a heavy tribal beat and plenty of screaming vocals. Modern noises for people who aren't afraid to try something new. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Feature Mist" ($10 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Rd., London SW17 7SS, UK): A nicely-packaged melange of sounds, blending from track to track so that it all seems to fit despite its diversity. There's some Simple Minds, some experimental stuff ("Eric Random Meets the Bedlamites in Cassette Conference"), Shostakovich, New Order, Tuxedomoon, and more. Never boring, never predictable. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Hypertonia Pop Collection 2" ($6 from Jan Bruun, Hypertonia World Enterprises, PO Box 4307, N-5008 Bergen, NORWAY): It's interesting to see how the different countries represented on this cassette tend to produce their own styles of music. France with synthesizers, England with a standard rock lineup, and so on. Donald Campau's (USA) verbal meanderings are reminiscent of Robert Ashley; Das Freie Orchester (DDR) produces an interesting "We Shall Overcome" with a rhythmic, rap feel and operatic vocals; Shadowplay (BRD) produces a blistering industrial instrumental. Most compositions seem well-picked alternatives to the standard around-the-world fare heard elsewhere. (T/KJ)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "J.D.s Top Ten Tape" ($5 *CASH* from PO Box 1110, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, ONT, M5C 2K5, CANADA): Actually there's 11 bands on this homocore (hardcore and other new music for the young gay punk crowd) compilation. Best bets come from No Brain Cells, Fifth Column, Robt. Omlit and Zuzu's Petals. Lots of looseness here, sloppy playing, plenty of energy and outrageous lyrics. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL Presents They Don't Get Paid, They Don't Get Laid, But Boy Do They Work Hard" (Blacklist Mailorder, 251 Shipley St., San Francisco, CA 94107): This compilation includes a 24-page zine with blurbs on each of the 14 bands included and samples from 10 zines, "representing this project's DIY [Do It Yourself] theme." Included on the vinyl are the Detonators, Christ on a Crutch, Screeching Weasel, Nausea and more. In the zine department there's Hippycore, the Village Noize ,and Absolutely Zippo. Essential as either an introduction or continuation. (LP/TG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Morrison St." (Paris Records, 9794 Forest Ln. #595, Dallas, TX 75243): Texas is tangible in this poetry anthology from the start. In Robert Trammell's "Untitled" the hear and the cacti are just the start of a trip to the border in a '49 Mercury. And then there's the desert,the roaches, the hurricane...and everyone's mother, too. Topics and details don't describe this rapid tumble through the creative and literal voices of 20 Dallas poets. To call, for example, Sheryl St. Germain's "For One Who Has Known Grief" a take of sex and death is to give no clue of its power—spoken, carefully, in dry-mouthed seriousness. There's a lot in listening to someone else talk for a change. Green vinyl. (LP/KF)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The New Breed" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): This tape, a cooperative effort from Hawker, Emergo, RC and Roadracer, has something that will satisfy every musical taste. Gang Green offers killer grunge-metal-hardcore; Token Entry mixes it up with rock/funk/punk sound; and Boston's Jones Very offers a slab of college-radio style hyperactive pop. An expansive primer to the new music scene and to some up-and-coming bands. (T/DW)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "New York Rockers" (ROIR, 611 Broadway #411, New York, NY 10012): A tenth-anniversary collection from ROIR, one of the best all-cassette labels around. It bills itself as "an anthology of anti-hits and rate tracks from Manhattan's original rock underground". Some of my favorite tracks here come from the Dictators, Johnny Thunders, Suicide, and Television. If you have every ROIR tape ever, you don't need this; otherwise, it's a good introduction to 13 of their top artists. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Oh God, My Mom's on Channel 10!" ($9 from Nadwuar the Human Serviette, PO Box 27021, 1395 Marine Dr., West Vancouver, BC, V7T 2X8, CANADA): "14 of the most mozza-relling teen zit angst bands around" is how this one is plugged, but you won't go far wrong by thinking of it as a showcase of some of the best garage bands in Canada and the States today. Primo tracks come from the Mighty Squirrels, the Headless Horsemen, The Vindicators and Gruesomes, with all manner of fuzzbox and cheesy organ work. An excellent rockin' record, broken up by siller interview segments between compiler Nadwuar and celebrities dumb enough to come within microphone range. Includes a 16-page booklet with details on all the bands. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Panx Vinyl Zine 01" ($16/next 5 EPs from Panx, BP 5058 31033 Toulouse Cedex, France): The introductory release in a series of subscription EPs designed to spotlight young European bands, mainly in the hardcore side of the punk world. This issue features tracks from Bluck!, Plaies Mobiles, S.O.R., and Anti/Dogmatikss. A nice collection, with backup literature on each band. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Panx Vinyl Zine 02" (Panx, BP 5058 31033 Toulouse Cedex, France): A six song/five band effort with one apiece from Society Gone Madd, the Stench, Cold Vietnam, Fanatical Views, and two from Germany's Resident Mockery. This is hardcore, with each band striking it's own balance between punk and metal influences. Society Gone Madd's "Religous Fundamentalists" stood out for me, but it's all good stuff. (EP/TG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Plunderphonics" (Available "only to public access and broadcast organizations"—send SAE & IRC for info to Mystery Laboratory, PO Box 727, Stn. P, Toronto, ONT, M5S 2Z1, CANADA): A wonderful romp through the world of music, made up of hits from many eras reprocessed and electronically altered. There's Michael Jackson repeating himself, Liszt done Spike Jones style, Bing Crosby and Dolly Parton warbling at the wrong speeds, the Beatles in multiple overdubbing, music boxes, tuning, stolen beats...Musical mayhem, in short. It's all seamlessly assembled and distributed in a strictly limited edition. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "The Pony: A Collection of Hymns, Psalms, National Anthems, Folk Songs & General Blasphemy" ($5 from Hypertonia World Enterprises, Jan Bruun, PO Box 4307, N5008 Bergen, NORWAY): The title just about sums it all up—there's everything here from A to Z contributed by artists from around the world. It starts off on a majestic note with Trigger B (from West Germany) and then changes gears again and again with musical waywardness. The offerings run the gamut from cool industrial nowage music to offbeat ditties to ethereal ambience to spiritual to warped. Of particular interest is the US contribution, "This is a Song About AIDS (Ring Around the Rosy)" which takes a child's song and applies it to serious issues—an interesting juxtaposition. (T/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Principles" ($7 from EEMC, PO Box 3219, Eugene, OR 97403): Ninety minutes of topnotch work from the members of the Eugene Electronic Music Collective. For the most part the work is bouncy and fast-moving, though a few pieces slide to abrasive in one direction or eerie in the other. Contributors include Heather Perkins, Kris Thomas, Joel Horwitz, Sue Milleman, and seven more. Anyone who's into modern electronic mostly-pop should definitely get hold of this and the Collective's catalog. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Right Next Door" ($4.50 from Independent Music Network, PO Box 3516,, Carbondale, IL 62902): The IMN links together a number of home-recorded artists from across the country, and this polished release is a good showcase for their talents. The A side is rock-oriented, almost slicker than I like in spots, but with high points including Glacier's "Go Away". The B side is quieter, with jazz stuff from Rick Cucuzza and others and a bit of New Age instrumentalism as well. An enjoyable alternative to an hour of radio. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Screaming in the Mirror" (Ticklish Tapes, PO Box 1064, Collingswood, Vic. 3066, AUSTRALIA): How to describe the variety of offerings here without taking up too much time and space? There is no "unifying theme" that links each song. Each offering is different in style, content and delivery. And yet, therein lies a good part of the attraction of the tape: you never know what you'll hear next from. From an exhortation of animal rights to a doomy gloomy paean of psychedelia to a girlish giggle/babble of music, each offering is noteworthy and creative. (T/CS)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Touch Travel" ($10 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS UK): Another lovely package from the Touch people. This one features music from around the world—the chant of a Yanomamo shaman, infectious bouncy pop from London, Argentinian folk songs, mioddeastern stuff from 3 Mustaphas 3, and more. It's all packaged with four colorful posters, with notes on the music, artwork, quotes, small stories, and who knows what else. A detailed and fascinating package.

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Universal Mind Expansion" ($4.50 *CHECK/MO* from Mike Jones, 10001 N. 7th St. #248, Phoenix, AZ 85020): Thirteen tracks from nine of Phoenix's unknown underground bands. There's a lot of harsh noises on this tape, with a batch of live performance and not a little industrial. Bands represented here include Telepathic Siamese Twins, Ping Doing, and Crawlspace Jr. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "West Light" (Centrediscs, 20 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ONT, M4Y 1J9, CANADA): Another in the fine series of contemporary music by Canadian composers put out by Centrediscs, performed in this case by the Vancouver New Music Ensemble. I think my favorite here is the lead piece, Rudolf Komorous's "Rossi", which dashes jauntily through a dozen musical styles without stooping to parody. Other entries include conductor Owen Underhill's own "Escalator" and the somewhat formal "Estarrung" of Rodney Sharman. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "We Three Bings" (Vital Music, 263 E. 10th St., New York, NY 10009): A very funny Christmas collection, pressed on bright green vinyl, and featuring some great New York underground talent. Rats of Unusual Size lead off with their version of "Santa Claus is Coming". Other hot tracks include the Yeastie Girlz "Jingle Balls", Purple Geezus covering the Chipmunk's Christmas Song, and Ed Gein's Car and their modernized "O Merry Town of Surfing Gentlemen". I only wish it had come in in time to make our December issue. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

Various Artists, "Widemouth Sampler" ($4 from PO Box 382, Baltimore, MD 21203): A bargain introduction to the world of curious sounds available from Widemouth. It features 31 selections from 26 tapes, moving from the rather clipped language poetry that started it off to the assaults of Doktors for Wotan and the mania of tentatively, a convenience. Includes copies of the liner notes for each of the tapes excerpted. Definitely something to get if the boundaries of language and performance excite you. (T/MG)

★★★★★

VERLAINES, "Hallelujah All the Way Home" (Homestead Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0800): Originally put out in 1985 but just being released in the states. Unlike the beautifully somber "Birddog" (1988), this album crosses a transition period for the band. More upbeat than usual, they weave jangly guitars, french horns, and cellos into their songs, constantly switching tempos to create heartfelt music. It might seem offbeat at first, but repeated listens uncover the unique beauty of the Verlaines sound. (LP/LJC)

★★★★★

VIBRATING EGG, "The Castle of Dr. Eggmorbulon" (PO Box 18685, Rochester, NY 14618): This one seems to have been assembled rather than composed, and is sort of a sidehanded tribute to a couple of classic horror movies. The A Side starts with the soundtrack for The Bridge of Frankenstein, the B with Godzilla vs. Gigan. But then each is condensed and overlaid with other goodies, from Jerry Lewis on back to Richard Wagner, making for a miniature audio movie with a convoluted plot. (T/MG)

★★★★★

VIKTIMIZED KARCASS, "Live at the South End" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Nasty, swampy, live recording of a grungey punk band. The lyrics are too muffled to make out, but the sound is definitely scary, funky & melodic. (T/CER)

★★★★★

VOICE OF LARYNGITIS #17/RADIO NORTH COAST INTERNATIONAL Halloween 1987 ($4 and a blank TDK or Maxell C-90 Chrome tape from DVS, PO Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895): A pair of pirate radio broadcasts, taped off the shortwave but of very high quality. Voice of Laryngitis is very satirical, with a long piece on the Kennedy assassination and little music. RNCI, on the other hand, is almost all music—specifically, a Phil Spector marathon for Halloween, the "Night of Spectres". An interesting experience in alternative listening. (T/MG)

★★★★★

THE VOODOO DOLLS, "I'm Coming Back To Haunt You" b/w "This Town Makes Me Feel So Lonely" (Stanton Park Records, PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160): Lively brisk-paced garage rock somewhat akin to the Ramones in spirit but more 60's underground in execution. It's scruffily cheerful and upbeat, and rings out with great resolution. (45/CS)

★★★★★

WILLIE WALKER, "God Bless America" (Dish Studios, 783 Woodland Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07062): Gentle mostly-acoustic guitar melodies with laid back lyrics of love and life. Willie's work reminds me a bit of Peter, Paul and Mary, or perhaps Sonny & Cher; it sounds definitely dated today, although you'd think caring and sharing wouldn't go out of style. Well-produced but lacking in punch. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WALLMEN, "Nemllaw: You Are the Wallmen Today" ($4 from Jethro Deluxe, 7711 Lisa Ln., N. Syracuse, NY 13212): This band is getting slicker in its packaging and cleaner in its mix but no less strange in its concept. Bringing SubGenial music to the masses by eschewing Doktor-stylings in favor of rock, they confuse and confound with such numbers as "Does Your Mom Do Drugs" and "Sump Pud". Drugs couldn't make them this weird; it must be the touch of Dobbs that inspires their eerie, melodious rock. (T/MG)

★★★★★

WARLOCK PINCHERS, "Deadly Kung Fu Action" ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702-0081): Satanic punk hip-hop music: certainly the only band in the genre, and hence the best. I predict "Morrissey Rides A Cockhorse", with its string of obscenities chorus, will be an instant hit. There's plenty of ragging on other folks, paeans to Satan, and a sound that might cause you to burn your stereo in self-defense. A joke, yes, but they seem pretty serious about it. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

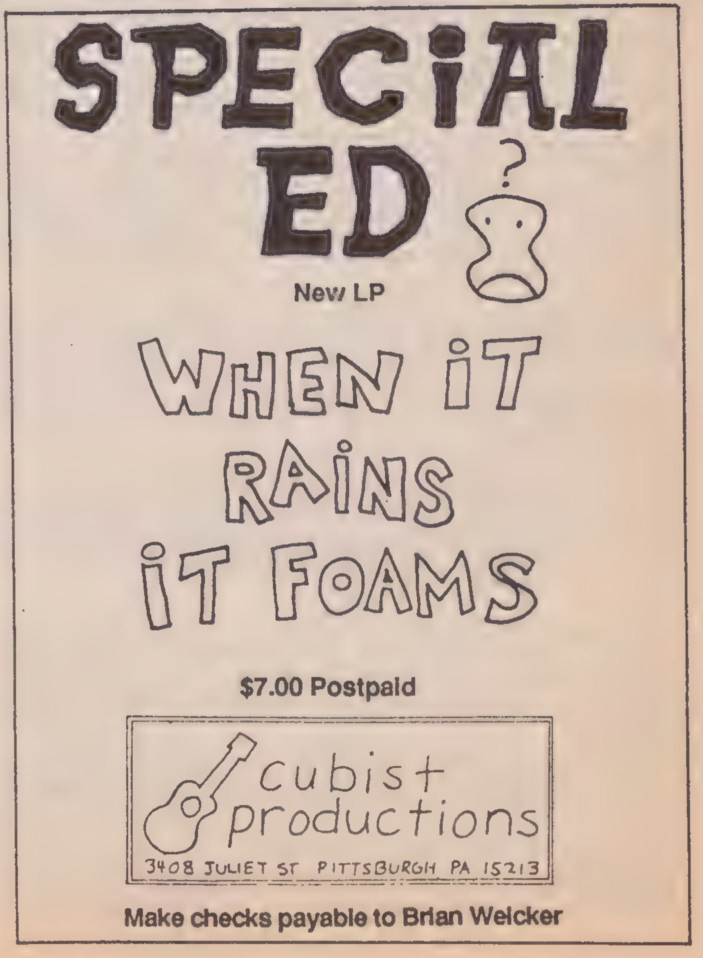
WAS ISN'T #25 ($5 from Allin, PO Box 60254, Oklahoma City, OK 73146): Remember when you got your first tape recorder as a kid? Remember how much fun it was to run around recording people with the cheap mike, even though what they said was almost lost in the static? OK, that's what we've got here. Some of it is interviews from the zine of the same name, but most is just mindless chatter, bands tuning, and other filler. (T/MG)

★★★★★

DEREK WHITE, "Starfisheye" ($5 from 10 Leonardo Ln., Santa Cruz, CA 95064): Gentle, almost folky rock with a charming sound—which is made even more charming by the sometimes unintentional backing vocals from two Chesapeake Bay Retrievers and a Peachfront Lovebird. Derek puts together hypnotic guitar lines with lyrics that capture quiet moments with poetic intensity. It's tapes like these that help me calm down after a long day dealing with the world. (T/MG)

★★★★★

GEORGE WILLARD, "Earcandy" ($2 from D. Craig, 2157 Seaman Ct., Herndon, VA 22070): Only an hour long, but it seems like more due to the


SPECiAL ED

New LP

WHEN iT RAiNS iT FOAMS

$7.00 Postpaid

cubist productions
3408 JULIET ST PITTSBURGH PA 15213

Make checks payable to Brian Weicker

★★★★★

sometimes submarginal production and the ambient industrial nature of the music. Willard plays with various cheap guitars, a ukulele, a cheap Casio organ and bass to produce a dense thicket of noise, often repeating tot he point of near-madness or deliberately attempting to drive people away ("Halloween Theme" reportedly kept him free of being bothered by the little monsters that night). (T/MG)

★★★★★

WIRE, "On Returning" (Restless Records, 11264 Playa Ct., Culver City, CA 90231-6127): I've been less than thrilled, to put it charitably, with recent recordings by Wire. With the release of this compilation of their material from 1977-79 (including cuts from "154", "Pink Flag" and "Chairs Missing" as well as various B sides) I can finally see what the fuss was about. There's a spunk about some of this material, a lack of deadly slickness, that takes their punk stylings and makes them worth a spin. Cuts like "I Am the Fly" and "40 Versions" seem to have an energy that their later albums lack. Get this and relive the good old days, I guess. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

WORKING MOTHERS, "Tomorrow's Here" (PO Box 26541, Birmingham, AL 35226): Hard-driving rock with a sound something like the Ramones at their least stupid and most together. The four songs here aren't going to set any records for new ideas or clever lyrics (though "She Don't Love" ain't bad in that department), but they will get the blood pumping and the teens leaping around the room playing air guitar riffs. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

WORLD ENTERTAINMENT WAR, "Televisionary" (PO Box 410212, San Francisco, CA 94141): Techno-funk with McLuhanish lyrics for the modern world. My favorite cut here is the hymnal "Triple Witching Hour", its attitude towards money and Wall Street reminding me of classic Yippie antics. "K-Mart Tribal Ballet" looks into the clash of culture and consumerism, while "Left Hand Fights The Right" delves into the subjects of entertainment and celebrities themselves. (LP/MG)

★★★★★

GARY WRAY, "Instrument of Doom" (18540 Cantara St., Reseda, CA 91335): Swamp-sludge mostly synthetic music, with only a few vocal cuts (including the bogeyman tale "Swamp Monster"). Wray presents a variety of moods, from upbeat cheesy organ bits to eerie nightmarish fantasies. Not quite as downbeat as the title would suggest, but still possessed of a bit of the madman's edge. (T/MG)

★★★★★

SCOTT WYATT, "Beyond the Lines" (Audiomedia, PO Box 1792, Eau Claire, WI 54701): Contemporary classical music with strong electronic components; some of this stuff was obviously composed with digital instruments in mind, but there are other pieces that work with more standard percussion, sax or guitar. Wyatt tends to paint careful soundscapes, exploring gently while never dragging the listener too fast. It's soothing music, that passes much more quickly than the 55-minute playing time suggests. (CD/MG)

★★★★★

XENOGLOSSIA, demo tape ($1 & a blank cassette from Bill Cooney, 840 Prospect Ct., North Liberty, IA 52317): Death metal from Iowa, complete with doom-laden song titles (try "Charnel House" and "Ragnarok"), sinister bass riffs punctuated with pseudo-classical guitar triads, and scary Darth Vader vocals by some guy named Ethan. A buck and a blank tape will get you their demo, and maybe even the cool monster sticker they sent along with the review copy. (T/KS)

★★★★★

XYZ, self-titled (Enigma Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Lush power rock with production by Don Dokken, poised on the edge between slickness and grunge. They promise a big sound and they deliver. Their lyrics are more metallic than their music, all full of dark and despairing stuff, though not unrelentingly so. Aimed squarely at the mainstream radio market. (T/MG)

★★★★★

RICHARD YOUNGER, "Dance of Shiva" ($5 from Rebel Toy Records, PO Box 625, New York, NY 10002): Mostly gentle instrumentals (some with bits of tape-collage vocals mixed in) that concentrate on Richard's soothing acoustic guitar playing, with some synth work added in. I listened to this early one morning when I was feeling pretty harassed and harried by the world. It helped. (T/MG)

★★★★★

Z-BO MAN, "Shut The Fuck Up" (Derailed, 1250 Long Beach Ave. #220, Los Angeles, CA 90021): One song, two mixes (regular and "house, i.e., longer and more repetitive), and one line of lyrics, which is also the same as the title. The music is bouncing and polished, but somehow, this song just doesn't carry the weight of having a 12" single all to itself. (EP/MG)

★★★★★

ZEN MIND, BEGINNER'S MIND ($15.95 from Audio Literature Inc., 325 Corey Way #112, S. San Francisco, CA 94080): This is an abridgement of Shunryo Suzuki-roshi's classic book about Zen, wonderfully read by Peter Coyote. Being Zen, of course, it is simultaneously maddeningly contradictory and amazingly simple (and if I were more Zen, I'd probably see those as the same thing). If you have the time to slow down, take a deep breath, and actually *listen* to this, you may find it enlightening indeed. But watch out—you too could be sitting za-zen before you know it. (2T-MG)

★★★★★

MUSIC NOTES

•**91X** sends me the occasional playlist from their "Loudspeaker" show of largely-unsigned noisy music. You can contact them at PO Box 85690, San Diego, CA 92138.

•**The A.1. Waste Paper Co., Ltd.** (71, Lambeth Walk, London SE11, ENGLAND) is collecting songs for a "thematic compilation tape exchange". They say they want songs about pudding, trains, chickens, madness, and "every conceivable subject".

•**Ajax Records** (PO Box 146882, Chicago, IL 60614) will send you their current catalog for an SASE. They're also offering to list collectibles for sale on consignment, so get in touch if this interests you.

•**ASFi MUSIC WORKS** (349 West St. N #3, Orillia, ONT, L3V 5E1, CANADA) writes, "No matter what your favorite jazz canon is, be it the early hot jumpin' thang, the postwar swank coolness or the modern elector-mayhem, the form is far from expended. ASFi invited you to build on these traditions while utilising that concepts of recyclage, retrofuturism and creative plagiarism. Recordings should be submitted as a chromium stereo cassette with either Dolby (B or C) or dbx (type II only) noise reduction. The submission deadline is 31 May 1990. Compensation for works used will be a free copy of the complete project."

•**Burning Press** (PO Box 18817, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118) is looking for "language-centered cassette tapes" for a future issue of the sometimes-cassette magazine **TAPROOT**.

•**CHRW** is the student station at the University of Western Ontario. They send me their playlist, which includes a lot of indies including some tapes, so there's hope for your demo. You can contact them at Room 222, University Community Centre, University o Western Ontario, London, ONT N6A 3K7, CANADA.

•**The Dead Milkmen** (PO Box 58152, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8152) publish their own newsletter of humor and news for adoring fans. You can get on to their mailing list just by writing to them.

•**Ecto Tapes** (5912 NW 62nd Terr, Oklahoma City, OK 73122) is putting together a compilation of Residents cover songs and wants to receive contributions on Hi-Bias chrome tape.

•**Ensemble Vide** is a French radio show which wants to receive "good harsh music from every country". Contact Laurent Boyar at BP 12, 33031 Bdx Cedex, FRANCE.

•**Epsilonia** is a 2-hour weekly radio broadcast on "mail art, free press, poetry, alternative ideas, home tapes, new musics, gloomy tendencies, weird graphisms, etc." Contact Christophe Mielle, 182 Ave Jean Lolive, 93500 Pantin, FRANCE.

•**Fiction Focus** is a self-hypnosis tape designed to break writer's blocks. $10.95 from PO Drawer 3423, St. Augustine, FL 32085-3423.

•**Heath Dog Violet** will send you a current pricelist of 120+ tapes for an SASE. Send it to Mark Krischak, 2611 Yorba Linda Blvd. #301, Fullerton, CA 92631.

•**John Hudak** (PO Box 7784, Philadelphia, PA 19101-7784) has a catalog of his experimental and environmental tapes available to anyone who asks for a copy.

•**The Independent Music Catalog** is essentially a marketing co-op for musicians. For $25 you can be a member and have a writeup on your tape featured in the next four catalogs. For $3 you can subscribe to the next 4 catalogs. Write for more information.

•**INDEX** (1241 N. Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32303) is an independent tape-distribution service that's willing to consider new works for their catalog. Try an SASE for details.

•**KAOS** (The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505) is a college radio station heavily dedicated to independent music—their policy requires 80% of music played to be indies. If you put out records or tapes you should probably send them a copy and wait for the playlist, which will certainly feature you since they add everything.

•**MEmento** is a project Sean Hill is putting together. To participate send a one-minute tape of your earliest memories in your own voice, including your name, date and place of birth and where you were raised. Send your memory on a C-60 tape with your name & address on it and get a copy of the finished product. You can contact Sean at 2730 Monroe-Concord Rd., Troy, OH 45373.

•**Mix Bookshelf** (6400 Hollis St. #12, Emeryville, CA 94608) is an outfit that sells resources for audio and video recording: sound effects, MIDI stuff, books on loudspeaker design and construction, and so on. Ask to be put on their mailing list if you're interested.

•**Steven Nothing** (Tumult, 2336 Market St. #107, San Francisco, CA 94114)is into trading tapes. He's looking for live recordings of Current 93, Death in June, Nurse With Wound and related bands, and has an extensive list of things available to trade, including lots of early punk and other goodies. Or he'll pay a reasonable sum in cash if you don't want to swap.

•**Pegasus Productions** (PO Box 3302, Muscle Shoals, AL 35662) is a marketing organization geared to the needs of up and coming musical artists: packaging, promo, press kits, and more. Call Deb Flippen at (205)-381-4340 for more information.

•**Rex Records** (112 Danbury Rd., Reistertown, MD 21136) has a catalog of their offerings available for a stamp.

•**RICE RADIO FOLIO** is the combined program guide and playlist of the station at Rice University (KTRU 91.7 FM, Houston, TX 77251-1892).

They're technically advanced; their top 25 list is available via Fidonet's Music Echo, as well as in printed form.

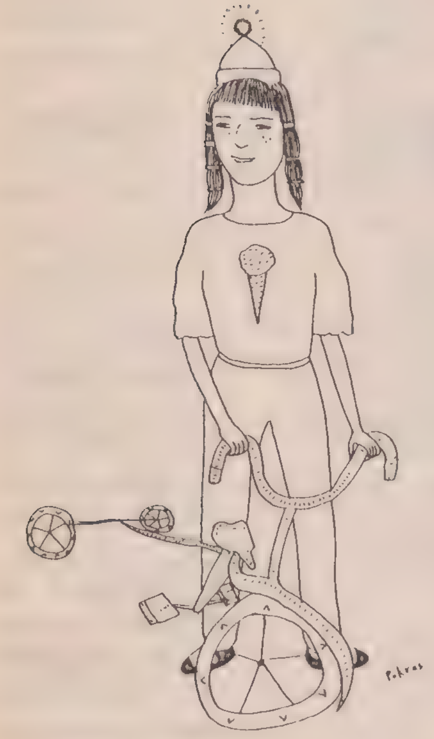
•**Space & Time World Enterprises** (11438 Killion St. #4, N. Hollywood, CA 91601) is John Trubee's sales company, handling his own music as well as other bizarre items. The catalog is pretty small, so an SASE should get you one.

•**S.T.A.R.** stands for Sound Track Album Retailers, which is what these folks do, and have been doing for about twenty years. To get on their monthly catalog mailing list, send $10 to PO Box 487, New Holland, PA 17557.

•**THE WHIPPING POST** is a forthcoming catalog of less mainstream music from the Southeast which is looking for bands to feature. For more information write to 529 PhonoVisual, PO Box 23855, Nashville, TN 37202-3855.

•**WKDI** (544 College Ave, Dekalb, IL 60115) is a college radio station that gets its playlists out regularly. They use a no-frills presentation, and seem to go mainly for the major minor and minor major labels.

MARK
NEVILLE



LOUISA'S BIRTHDAY BIKE

HAD NO BACKBONE

The Music Society

Probabilities

"Ambient electronic musical compositions... unfolding to display new ideas and sounds."

Mike Gunderloy • Factsheet Five #33 • USA

"It makes me happy to receive a tape as good as yours... very beautiful music."

Jan R. Bruun • Radio KAOS • NORWAY

"Great stuff. I like it a lot!"

Daniel Robichaud • CKUM FM • CANADA

"It is really quite good."

Allan Clark • The Single Eye • CANADA

"It's very refreshing to listen to...

Sandy Nys • Netwerk • BELGIUM

"I will definitely play this one !"

Lord Litter • Radio 100 • GERMANY

THE MUSIC SOCIETY • Rm. #15 • 15 Goldberry Sq • Scarborough ON • M1C 3H6 • CANADA

Please send me a cassette copy of PROBABILITIES. Enclosed is US $8.99 (cheque or money order) which includes postage & handling. (ON res. add $0.72 sales tax)

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED: If not completely satisfied I may return the tape for a full refund.

Name:____________________

Address:____________________

City:________ State:____ Postal Code:____ Country:____

THE ANIMAL WHO EATS WINTER

(for Mike Gunderloy)

by Misha

illustration by Drain

An animal has gotten under my skin.

An animal's violent flight beats in my throat and leaves its bloody tracks across my floor.

This animal blazes in my lungs, swims up my bloodstream and burrows into my brain.

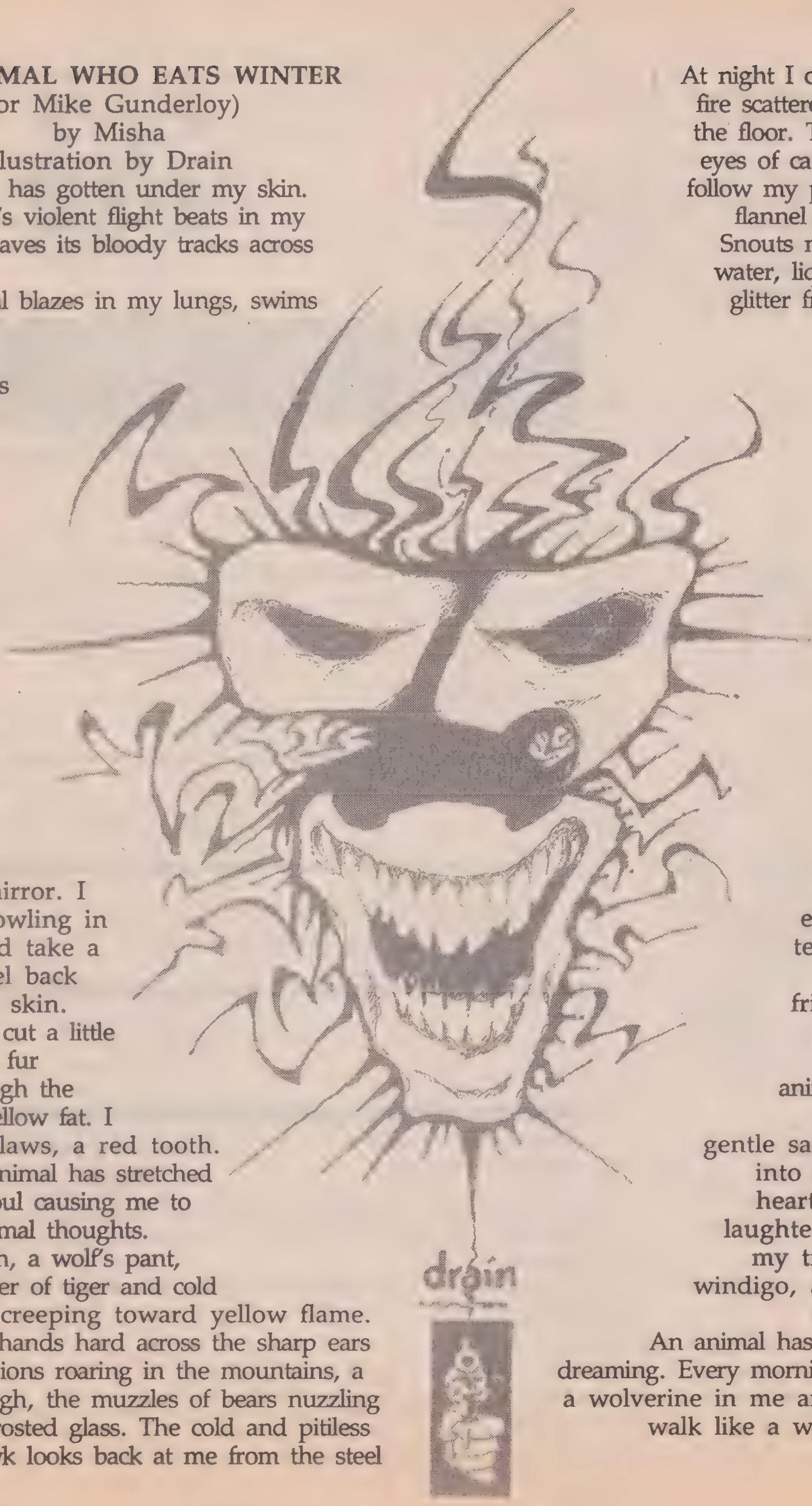
An animal has lengthened my jaw, leaving its rapacious appetite under my tongue.

A shadow of an animal paces beside me, hot breath staining the bathroom mirror. I paw the growling in my eyes and take a razor to peel back my burning skin.

With each cut a little more brindle fur pushes through the blood and yellow fat. I find ivory claws, a red tooth.

A boreal animal has stretched out in my soul causing me to prick my animal thoughts. Coyotes mirth, a wolf's pant, blazing hunger of tiger and cold salamander creeping toward yellow flame.

I slap my hands hard across the sharp ears of animals. Lions roaring in the mountains, a leopard's cough, the muzzles of bears nuzzling against the frosted glass. The cold and pitiless eye of a hawk looks back at me from the steel kettle.



At night I call to animals of fire scattered golden across the floor. The disembodied eyes of cats, green flames, follow my pupation in blue flannel and black wool. Snouts move in brackish water, liquid bronze eyes glitter from the slime, a badger rakes muddy claws across my face and a snow leopard yowls, his eyes icicles of alcohol in the half-light. Some animal moves under my skin, snarling in my laughter and tangling my thoughts in a jungle of scales. An animal's cry echoes over the telephone wires, begging my friends to stroke and run.

A sophisticated animal rubs against my ribcage. Its gentle savagery weasels into my icy human heart. Its trickster's laughter runs all over my trail, killing the windigo, and letting my spirit run free.

An animal has ripped into my dreaming. Every morning I wake with a wolverine in me and every day I walk like a wolverine walks.

THE BOOK OF THE MOUTH CLUB

Æditor's note: There is a considerable backlog of books waiting for review. This seems to happen about once a year and I don't worry about it too much, since books by their nature tend to be less ephemeral than most of the rest of what we review. I expect to have this cleared up by the next issue.

Also, I have managed to get some ordering information for Evelyn Lau's book **RUNAWAY**, which was reviewed last issue (and, incidentally, has made the national bestseller lists in Canada, where it was published). The Longhouse Bookshop in Toronto is willing to ship copies to the U.S. for $12.80, including shipping, handling and registration. This is payable in Postal Money Order, Visa or Mastercard, and should be sent to the mail-order department at Longhouse at 497 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ONT, M5S 1Y2, CANADA; phone (416)-921-9995; Fax (416)-921-8614.

Attention travelers: The Lonely Planet guidebooks have gotten a lot of good reviews, and being a homebody myself, I'm not the perfect person to review them. The following guides are up for grabs at the moment:

HONG KONG, MACAU & CANTON
TURKEY
EASTERN EUROPE ON A SHOESTRING
NORTH-EAST ASIA ON A SHOESTRING (Japan, Taiwan, Korea, China, Hong Kong, Macau)

If you're recently back from, or about to head to, one of these areas, drop me a line and I'll set you up with a guidebook to read and review.

David Alexander, **HITLER'S LEGACY** ($3.50 plus $1.25 s&h from Leisure Books, Customer Service Dept., 276 5th Ave., New York, NY 10001): This is pure escapism, with the cover blurb "The Third Reich was dead—but the Nazis lived on." Of course, I have reasons for reviewing it here. First, I read this sort of junk, just as I gobble potato chips. Second, "David Alexander" actually has ties to the small press scene, although not under that name. (No real surprise—I know other small-pressers who've made their living writing marginal books, whether sexual pornography or this sort of violence pornography). The basic plot here is simple: the Nazis are still around, linked by groups like ODESSA, and they're still killing folks big-time. A tough New York cop gets on the trail of one such operation, and chases back and forth all over the world, with a variety of lovingly describe weaponry. It's difficult to believe anyone can take seriously such sentences as "Blood spurted from the Nazi's eyeballs as jaw fragments exploded through the roof of his mouth and razored through cerebral tissue as though it were so much cauliflower," but I'm sure some people do. All in all, a fast and mildly amusing suspenseful read. (281 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Mary Anne Ashley, **FRAGMENTS I SAVED FROM THE FIRE** ($9 from Papier-Mache Press, 795 Via Manzana, Watsonville, CA 95076-9154): A collection of stories and letters to friends and ruminations—Ashley is none too concerned with sticking to one particular form—that explore the life of a group of friends referred to disparagingly by an outsider as "a bad element in East Yolo County". (To which the author replies "But she's full of beans. We're good elements. Maybe just a little too loud.") These people are stunningly *real*, perhaps because of their marginality. Rather than the glamorous nothings that populate modern novels, the characters here live on the edge of poverty, struggle with the radical unions in the 30s, get involved with hellraising in the 60s. In some ways this book is a process of recovery, a source for folks who don't make it into the archives, a new window on a depressed world which may just be coming back as the economy spirals down again. I enjoyed it a good deal, and would recommend Ashley's work to anyone who wants to read some good feminist historical literature. (112 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

AWAKENING OSIRIS: THE EGYPTIAN BOOK OF THE DEAD ($11.95 from Phanes Press, PO Box 6114, Grand Rapids, MI 49516): The Egyptian **BOOK OF THE DEAD** is thought by the unreading to be a morbid book: incantations over corpses, curses to protect the dead body on its trip to the everworld, recipes for embalming fluids. But the Egyptians called it **THE BOOK OF COMING FORTH BY DAY**, and it is a book of life-affirming religious tests written over centuries on the walls of Egyptian tombs and the sides of coffins. And in Normandi Ellis's translation, this is a beautiful book. She translates with a deft ear, reworking the texts for her own purposes, and she even writes three of the 68 chapters all by herself. Translation as invention makes for imprecise translation, but opens up the possibility for great poetry. Ellis avoids the pitfalls of academic translation and presents a book both moving and spiritual, and since the book is printed to permanent paper standards it should last for centuries, like papyrus in Egypt. Phanes Press publishes books on a wide range of Western spiritual and philosophical traditions, and their catalog is available on request. (227 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

Richard Balkin, **A WRITER'S GUIDE TO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS** ($11.95 + $3.00 S&H from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45207. Visa & Mastercard orders: 1-800-289-0963) ISBN 0-89879-360-2. This is another in Writer's Digest "do-it-yourself" series, and should be required reading for anyone who is close to selling a piece to a major magazine or to getting a book published. The first three chapters are the meat of the book and cover in explicit (but very readable) detail, "Magazine Agreements," "Trade Book Contracts" (i.e., the great American novel or major works of non-fiction), and "Contracts of Specialized Book Publishers." A later chapter on negotiating technique has a little bit of good stuff, but is mostly homilies ("know the ground rules, remain self-confident," etc.) and a final one on agents and lawyers seems like an afterthought.

The magazine agreement does not generally involve much in the way of negotiations, but Balkin clearly shows what the writer should do (and why) to protect his rights and avoid misunderstandings in his acceptance letter. An sample letter is included

The book chapter goes through publishing contracts section by section, showing what to avoid, phrases that should be lined out, and items that ought to be added. A lot of detail is presented, right on down to how many free copies the author is entitled to. Happily, everything remains very readable, even when covering such topics as option and termination clauses. Also discussed are what things are not negotiable, such as the list of rights that the publisher buys when he takes a book. Balkin presents the rationale for almost everything he recommends, which helps to hold the interest. (156 pp. pb) (Guest review by F.C. Gunderloy, Jr.)

★★★★★

Shaunt Basmajian, **BIASED ANALOGIES** ($7.95 from Sober Minute Press, PO Box 822, Adelaide St. PO, Toronto, ONT, M5C 2K1, CANADA): These days Basmajian is publishing very experimental stuff [see next review], but this 1987 collection spans years of writing more traditional poetry. These are works in the grand poetic tradition of holding a mirror up to society and saying "See what jerks you're being?", though there's a fairly strong Canadian content which sets them apart from much of what I see. There are also grumbles about the tough life of the poet and small press person in general. From "(Back to) The Ego": "your old friend the ego/salvation and a smile/the poet's last resort" (56 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Sha(u)nt Basmajian & brian david j(o(h)n)ston (eds.), **bfp(h)aGe** ($7.95 from Sober Minute Press, PO Box 822, Adelaide St. PO, Toronto, ONT, M5C 2K1, CANADA): Subtitled "An Anthology of Visual Poetry and Collage", this one shows off its chosen subject to good advantage. It opens with bpNichol's "The Legend of the Wirdie Bird", a playful melding of typographic forms with substance. I quite enjoyed the elephant which snuck into the final page of this poem-series. Greg Evason follows with a variety of work which is more on the art side than the word one, while jwcurrry comes at this from the other direction (his first piece, an "A" being eaten by —what else?—ants is quite amusing. Daniel F. Bradley contributes a selection of collage in which words play a minor role, followed by editor j(o(h)n)ston seems quite enamored of parentheses. Basmajian closes it off with a selection of visual poems. If you want to get some idea of the scope of today's experioddica, this would be a good place to start. (64pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Georges Bataille, **THE DEAD MAN** ($6 from Ediciones La Calavera, PO Box 85341, Las Vegas, NV 89185): Translated from the French, this pornoigraphic short story explores the relationship between sex and death...or, to be more precise, between death and sex and death, as the story comes full circle in the end. The main character is the semi-anonymous Marie, who becomes distraught on the death of her lover (one presumes) and takes to a nearby bar for a night of drunken revelry, sketched out in enough sordid detail to titillate or upset as your tastes dictate. later she leads one of the celebrants back home for her shocking end. Overall, I found this more puzzling than enlightening or entertaining, but I suspect Bataille must have a following to get away with writing this sort of thing. Illustrated with psychotic woodcuts by Andy Masson. (40 pp. pb)

★★★★★

Alexander Berkman, **WHAT IS COMMUNIST ANARCHISM?** ($8 from A Distribution, 396 Seventh St. #2, Jersey City, NJ 07302): This is a basic introduction to the justification for communist anarchism which reads as well today (except for minor matters like assuming the reader knows about the Mooney-Billings case) as it did when it was first published in 1929. Berkman writes for the working class, talking on a straightforward but not condescending level, and eschewing complicated political theory for concrete examples. Indeed, most of his argument simply consists of pointing out the failure of capitalism and government to answer the question posed by his first chapter title: "What Do You Want Out of Life?" He goes on to discuss how the system works, and then what is to be done about it. Examining the trade unions, reform politicians, the churches and socialism, he finds that none offer true hope to the working class. The closing five chapters here examine the Russian Revolution in great detail, explaining the Bolshevik betrayal of anarchist ideas and showing the distinction between anarchist communism and state communism by example. At this point the book closes, but a companion work, **ABC OF ANARCHISM**, (available from Ⓐ Distribution for $5.50) goes on to examine the society that the communist anarchists propose in detail. A good introduction to anarchist ideas and still a valuable piece of propaganda for them. (117 pp. tpb)

MORALLY BLIND
NO POINT OF PERSPECTIVE
ETHICAL MALOCCLUSION
CRIPPLED EGO
BUS
PROSTHETIC CONCIOUSNESS
WEBBED TOES
WALL ST JOURNAL
B WARR '87
THE HIDDEN HANDICAPPED AMONG US

★★★★★

Jake Berry, **UNNON THEORIES** ($5 from PO Box 17686, Phoenix, AZ 85011): Berry starts this off with the tone of an academic essay: "Any tactile response acknowledges, as intractable as it sounds, deliberate arbitration". Such polysyllabic utterances fill the first few pages, but it soon becomes obvious that linear meaning is missing. Just as this becomes apparent, Berry abandons all pretense of formal jargon and slips into such utterances as "To suppose been, not an uneven, though frenzied, enough", ending up with the likes of "Spg, drwl wedl drwl mansr fro brwnmr" as the book is drained of all linearity. Illustrated with drawings by the author. (D-52t)

★★★★★

Ken Bierly, **O'AHU: A PARADISE GUIDE** ($11.95 + $2 s&h from Paradise Publications, 8110 SW Wareham Circle, Portland, OR 97223): This is an excellent book, rich in local lore and completely up-to-date. Beginning with general information for anyone planning a trip, the major part of the book describes places to stay, places to eat, places to see, and what to do when not actually sleeping, eating, or sightseeing. Each heading is indexed separately; ignore the skimpy index in the back of the book.

The reviews include information on prices, reservations, facilities, telephone numbers, the author's recommendations, each location's claim to fame, and detailed breakdowns of your options. For instance, "Where to Stay" gives you what you need to know about hotels, condos, houses, bed & breakfast inns, hostels, the YMCA/YWCA, camping, and "miscellaneous". You'll find the same attention to detail in descriptions of the $25-a-night Kobayashi Hotel or the $825-a-night Haleakala Villa.

"Where to Eat" covers "shave ice" places, room service, drive-ins, dinner cruises, grocery stores, luaus, rural restaurants, and more, including establishments where the inexpensive meals start at fifty dollars per person. Pay close attention to the list of Hawaiian seafoods and the index to cuisine unique to Hawaii.

The famous attractions get the usual treatment, but this book's major strength is the attention paid to island residents' ("locals") favorite destinations. Island landmarks like Kemoo Farm or Arakawa's do not have sufficient parking for tour buses and do not advertise in the tourist-oriented publications. Locally owned and operated, they depend on repeat business, and some of their customers and staff have been coming in for decades.

The book also has a healthy dose of information on what locals like to do and where they like to do it. Read carefully; Shirokiya shows up under "Best Department Store" and "Where to Eat", but not under "Places to See". But this is a minor complaint; read the "Lounging" section to get the full flavor of the book, which encourages readers to talk with the locals (see the section on the Hawaiian language) and get to know them, a practice I heartily endorse.

This book gets the important stuff right: the Stadium Mall has the only iceskating rink in town, and either the Honolulu International Airport or the Banyan Tree on Kalakaua are the best places to people-watch, but there is one place where I part company with the author.

He recommends driving a rental car as the best way to get around. Outside of Honolulu, yes. Many visitors cruise between O'ahu landmarks with one hand on the steering wheel of their rented car and one hand on the map. Ignore the author's recommended Bryan map; buy the Byer map if you are seeing Oahu outside of Honolulu AND buy the Palapala 'Aina Ho'omakaika'i map if you are driving on the freeway.

Honolulu's H-1 freeway is not for the faint of heart. On-ramps are carefully camouflaged; offramps are shoehorned into microscopic parcels of breath-takingly expensive Honolulu real estate. The contorted results are nothing like an interchange on the Mainland and do not even resemble each other. They are an artform unique to Oahu. And remember, Waikiki has got to be the most lively 617 acres on Earth, but it is not famous for copious parking.

The author mentions some good safety tips, but he forgot to include the best one: every visitor to O'ahu should read the Civil Defense information on pages 31A through 38A in the Honolulu phone book. The Hawaiian Islands are in earthquake, tsunami, and hurricane territory.

A thick, chewy index is needed for this thick, chewy book. I have been visiting Hawaii since 1971 and living here since 1986, and when I read this book I was surprised at how much I was missing. I've got my copy; if you are headed for O'ahu, buy your own copy and begin reading it now. (320 pp. tpb) (Guest review by Sidney E. "Dusty" Miller)

★★★★★

Mindy Bingham and Penelope Colville Paine, **MY WAY SALLY,** illustrated by Itoko Maeno ($13.95 from ADVOCACY PRESS, POB 236, Santa Barbara, CA 93102): This is a delightful children's book in more ways than one. Written with the ostensible purpose of encouraging children, but girls especially, to think of power and leadership as something which can be worthwhile as a means to accomplish beneficial goals, it is the story of a foxhound and a fox, the friendship between them and thinking about good ways of breaking bad rules. It is illuminated by wonderful watercolor illustrations, including a frontispiece with botanical sketches of English native plants. No age group listed, but most children will require some help with the vocabulary, which is okay, because this is a book intended for discussion. A good concept, charmingly executed. It also may have the distinction of being the first material for review in FF that comes with a recommendation from Her Majesty the Queen. (46 pp. hc, with dust jacket) (Guest review by Carolyn MacDonald)

★★★★★

John Bryant, **BRYANT'S LAW AND OTHER BROADSIDES** (The Socratic Press, PO Box 66683, St. Petersburg Beach, FL 33736-6683): The subtitle to this one is "Recent Controversial Writings of John Bryant". Bryant is an iconoclast, an individualist, or just a flaming egotistical asshole, depending on how you look at him (personally, I incline towards the middle of that spectrum). He apparently considers himself competent to write about most anything, and does so at the drop of an outrageous idea.

There's close to fifty essays here, plus a batch of verse (among his other accomplishments, Bryant considers himself an accomplished poet). The writing runs from colloquial to academic, with most pieces on the layman's level. As for topics, well, perhaps it's simplest to just touch a few bases to show the scope of this collection. "Does 'Prejudice' Exist?" and the essays following it consider some thorny questions which politically correct folks would probably prefer to avoid. "Tough Problems/Easy Solutions: The Libertarian Remedy" is one of the best short summaries of the orthodox Libertarian theology that I've seen, as well as one of the most persuasive. "Liberalism, Conservatism and Related Labels: What Do They Mean?" attempts to make sense of what is perhaps a hopeless terminological tangle in these days when politics is more than just a matter of the party in power and the loyal opposition. "Adult-Child Sex: What's Wrong With It?" proves that Bryant is willing to tackle damned near any subject with more objectivity than most can muster. And one of my favorites, "A Skeptical View of *The Skeptical Inquirer*" takes that arch-skeptic journal to task for being too sure of itself.

Some people will no doubt find the Bryant style to be offputting. It's quite clear that he thinks some people are better than others and that he is one of the better ones in many senses—a notion which is surely as close to heresy as you can get today. But if you enjoy being provoked, about economics, sex, technology, poetry, politics and a dozen other topics, this is an excellent book to get hold of. (400 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Brendan Conley, **HOW TO WRITE AND PUBLISH AN UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPER** ($5 from Funhouse Mirror Communications, 853 Vanderbilt Beach Rd. #203, Naples, FL 33963): Brendan is the man behind the high school underground **FUNHOUSE MIRROR.** Here he shares the way they do things with prospective publisher, in a quick, streamlined format. It's sort of like an introduction to my own **HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE,** aimed at people who want to get something out right quick, on a small and local level. Mostly this would be useful for inspiring people, I think, and for showing that there are ways to tackle most of the hard stuff to publishing if you just take it one step at a time. It's good to see this sort of entrepreneurship is still out there. (29 pp. perfect-bound)

★★★★★

Alyce P. Cornyn-Selby, **MAKING YOUR MARK: THAT'S MARKETING!** ($7.95 from Beynch Press, 1928 SE Ladd Ave., Portland, OR 97214): This is one of Alyce's "mega-mini" books, with a 5 1/2 by 4 1/4 page size and plastic spiral binding so it can lay flat. Inside, there's plenty of open space on every page—but not because she has nothing to say. Rather, it's because everything has been condensed to the essentials. This is a marketing book for people who need to do marketing and don't have time to read books; I ripped through it in under half an hour.

However, I'll be coming back to it. You see, I just started working in a position with our local food Co-op that will involve me in efforts to improve our marketing. By the nature of our organization, much of the work will have to be shoehorned into other meetings with busy people. This book is *perfect* for this situation. Alyce reduces marketing to eight steps, oriented around the questions you need to ask yourself to do some marketing. From this, she shows how to best work with people like your graphic designer. This is not a book for someone who wants a lot of theory or ready-made solutions. It's a kick in the seat of the pants for those who seriously want to proceed from their own insights. (M-74)

★★★★★

Geoff Crowther and Hugh Finlay, **MOROCCO, ALGERIA & TUNISIA: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT** ($13.95 from Lonely Planet Publications, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): I have been an ardent fan of the Lonely Planet travel guide series for the past several years. This is because of Lonely Planet's view of what travel *should* ne and the high enjoyment level of their books. The philosophy of this publisher is to provide information about unusual regions and intact cultures that have not yet become homogenized despite the proliferation of media. Lonely Planet tacitly encourages a traveler to fully understand the past and present history of the country in question as well as its patterns of life. All of this background information enables the traveler to have some sense of where he or she is in relation to where he or she has just left. LP seems to loathe the whole "I'm bored—I want exotic people—in a strange land—to entertain us with their folkways." LP believes the traveler needs to know more than "is the food good" or "what exciting things can I see there?" LP provides a fair amount of information regarding the history & government of Morocco, Algeria & Tunisia (the information on the Algerian War for Independence will be especially helpful to visitors of Algeria). However, I wish the guide would have included more information about issues affecting the people as well as any opposition movements or alternative currents brewing in the region. Those of you traveling in North Africa should know about two other excellent guides which are less in-depth than LP. These are Let's Go's **SPAIN, PORTUGAL & MOROCCO** and the British **ROUGH GUIDE TO MOROCCO** (which features an excellent overview of Morocco's culture and reading list). There is little other information available on Tunisia or Algeria in English so anyone heading for these two countries would be wise to spring the $13.95 for LP's guide. The vital information including excellent maps, inexpensive accommodation listings and transportation advice is all exhaustive. Suggestions for the truly adventurous are also included. For example, tips are given on how to buy a car in Europe and then drive it across Algeria's Sahara Desert where you then head to West Africa where you sell the car and the profits pay for your trip! There is also extensive information on the Atlas Mountain region which will entice travelers who aren't put off by a remote unchanged primitive lifestyle. Another positive (and probably most important) point about the book is that it is a joy to read. The descriptions of the Moroccan royal cities of Fes and Mekres are so haunting & alluring that few won't dream romantic dreams of an idyll there. (419 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Andrea Bierwith)

★★★★★

Beverley Daurio (ed.), **VIVID: STORIES BY 5 WOMEN** ($9.95 from Aya Press, PO Box 446, Stratford, ONT, N5A 6T3, CANADA): A collection of very short stories—19 in this slim volume—with a slant towards the experimental. Of the five women represented here, two stood out for me. Marg Wilson's "Consider the Hollyhocks" is a rambling story of growing up, a young girl's recollections all melded together to form a web of childhood, poignant in its sorrows. Pauline Careyy's "Spit" is perhaps another interpretation of the same subject, although here it is the peer group rather than the parents that are responsible for the pain.

Of course, I may just be showing my own stodginess in admiring these two, as they are among the least experimental works in the book. More typical perhaps is Janet Howarth's fragmented "Looking Down", which begins "I don't think a person should tell a story, or write a story either, with all the pieces that tie things together neatly stuck in, as if it flowed, in some way one might understand, from A to B." She certainly follows her own advice. And Heather Cadsby and Carol Malyon also seem to be looking for new structures, although the latter has a sort of clipped, enigmatic style which reminds me of some of the "New Wave" SF experiments from two decades ago. In any case, this is an interesting collection, well-packaged from a publisher who specializes in cutting-edge works. (104 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

James DeMeo, Ph.D., **THE ORGONE ACCUMULATOR HANDBOOK** ($10.95 from Flatland, PO Box 2420, Fort Bragg, CA 95437-2420): This book is a concise introduction to the theory and practice of orgone energy research, as originally developed by Wilhelm Reich. Let me start off by saying that I am appalled by the suppression of Reich's research results, and if you don't know that story—about book-burnings and imprisonment for heresy in 1957—you should find out about it.

That aside, though, I fear that DeMeo's book has all the signs of being utter crap, the chief being that he, and every other anti-Establishment scientist, is always right, while all of modern physics, biology, and medicine is utterly wrong. DeMeo endorses such things as the luminferous aether, Benveniste's discredited homeopathic experiments, and biological transmutation, as well as everything Reich had to say about the generation of life from non-organic sources and the visibility of orgone in clear skies and dark rooms. A few controversial claims I could perhaps believe, but this chip-on-the-shoulder attitude towards all of science stretches credibility too far.

To DeMeo's credit, he does give detailed instructions for building at least some of the experimental apparatus he discusses, and suggests some experiments. Of course, they won't work in the presence of such Bad Things as televisions, fluorescent lights, microwave ovens, or computers, which makes it very difficult for most of us to repeat the experiments.

I don't mean to be too scornful of this book. But it simply does not exist in the same universe that I do. (155 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Eknath Easwaran, **THE COMPASSIONATE UNIVERSE** ($12 from Nilgiri Press, PO Box 477, Petaluma, CA 94953): This book attempts an ambitious program: the application of ancient spiritual principles to the modern industrial/ecological crisis. Easwaran learned to appreciate the classics of mysticism and the power of meditation by studying with Gandhi, and has since taught these things in the United States. Here he argues strongly that there is an alternative to a life of meaningless consumption: one of understanding and oneness, of giving and living. He offers some simple suggestions (vegetarianism, carpooling, and so on—nothing utterly revolutionary) for ways in which a single person can make a difference. Beyond that, though, he plugs a more mystical way to make a difference, that of daily meditation on a great spiritual text. Here he runs through one of St. Francis's prayers, considering it in the light of the modern situation, and finding it very appropriate. By learning to love everyone, Easwaran says, we can save ourselves. He may be right, and he's certainly inspirational. (208 pp. tpb)

SNAP
JASON T.
"THEY LAUGH NOW....."

★★★★★

Arthur Evans, **WITCHCRAFT AND THE GAY COUNTERCULTURE** ($11 from FR Publications, PO Box 331, Boston, MA 02215): This is a work of alternative history. Evans attempts to uncover the hidden gay history which, he argues, is cloaked behind many accusations of witchcraft. By properly selecting his sources, starting with the records of Joan of Arc's trial, he builds a convincing case—certainly this is at least as solid as many PhD theses in history. But Evans doesn't stop there. Gradually, he builds his argument about repression of gays in history into a thorough critique of the modern European power structure and its most evolved form in America. The final chapter, "Magic and Revolution", is nothing less than a call to overthrow this structure, recognizing the common ground between gays and many other repressed groups in the hope of building a new and better society. A solid work, even though it's on the fringes of academic respectability. (180 pp tpb)

★★★★★

→Joscelyn Godwin (ed.), **MICHAEL MAIER'S ATALANTA FUGIENS: AN EDITION OF THE EMBLEMS, FUGUES AND EPIGRAMS** ($26 from Phanes Press, 252 State St.. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503): This is a fascinating book, and one which I wish I had the depth and time to really savor and appreciate. Maier was an alchemist who published this work in 1617; this edition is newly translated from the Latin by Godwin (whose book on Fludd I greatly enjoyed some years ago) and with an introductory essay by Hüldemarie Streich, a Jungian analyst and musicologist. Streich is excellently qualified to analyze this work, since it is one of the most densely-populated multimedia thickets of symbolism I have yet encountered. Maier structures his discussion of the alchemical art into fifty parts, each with a copper-plate engraving, an epigram (in Latin and German in the original) and a fugue for three voices, representing Atalanta, Hippomenes, and the golden apples he threw to slow her down in their mythological race. In addition, the book includes a coupon for a free copy of a cassette tape of an English early music group singing the fugues, which is haunting and delightful in its own right, if an imperfect example of the art of the fugue (since musical considerations are subjugated to pedagogical ones in places).

Maier had some rather advanced ideas about education, in light of the current favor for interactive videodisks and other high-tech means of providing a total educational environment. Speaking of the combination of fugues (for the ears), plates (for the eyes) and epigrammatic verses, he says in his introduction "if it is first entrusted to the sense, there is no doubt that it should be transferred from the sense to the intellect, as through a portal." The lessons themselves are densely packed with alchemical symbolism, apparently directed more at making the alchemist a better person than at actually making gold from lead (this, I understand, is the generally accepted interpretation of the more hermetic alchemical works these days). In any case, while not for the dabbler, the serious student will certainly appreciate this fine new edition (on acid-free paper) from Phanes. (215 pp. tpb & tape)

★★★★★

Kenneth Sylvan Guthrie (ed.), **THE PYTHAGOREAN SOURCEBOOK AND LIBRARY** ($17 from Phanes Press, PO Box 6114, Grand Rapids, MI 49516): This is more of a reference work, or actually two reference works, than it is bedtime reading (although in fact I did get fascinated and drag it to bed more than once). Even the construction—acid-free paper, Smyth-sewn binding—testifies to its hopes for long-term usage. And the contents will encourage this as well.

The SOURCEBOOK section has four separate Lives of Pythagoras, the Greek philosopher, written at various removes from his actual life. These are fascinating in what they agree on and in what seem to be additions to the story as the man became more venerated. It's surprising how inspiring this life is even now; the parameters of being a great man have not changed all that much.

The LIBRARY is a collection of Pythagorean writings by dozens of the followers of his school. This ranges from moral precepts to preambles for systems of laws, geometry to music, analyses of concepts like "prudence" to the idea of fraternal love. Serious philosophers and workers in the various schools of Gnostic knowledge still remaining will appreciate this section. Others can find brief inspiration simply by browsing, skipping the chewy sections and investigating the apothegms.

I didn't know much about Pythagoras when I started this book. Now I know more—and I want to know even more, a sure sign that it caught my interest. If you're in the mood for a contemplative, challenging work, this deserves a try. (361 pp. tpb)

HANUMAN BOOKS

Pocket-sized books which are put out by Raymond Foye Editions. They're made in India, and feature sewn bindings and colored dust jackets with the title stamped in gold, although they are only about two inches by four. They're only sold in sets of six books, so if any of these interest you, get hold of their catalog ($1 should cover it, to PO Box 1070, Old Chelsea Stn., New York, NY 10013-0905) so you can see which other books are in the set you want. Or just send $25 for a set of six, specify which book you want, and take your chances on the other five.

Gregory Corso, **MIND FIELD**: This small book of recent poems by Corso only emphasizes the limits of his imagination. He continues to write (only with less vigor and urgency) the poems of two decades ago. Conversational and easy-going, his poems are simple little clarities, devoid of anything that would bring a reader back to the book. (56 pp.)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

Rene Daumal, **THE LIE OF THE TRUTH**: (The complete title of this mini-booklet ends with "and other parables from The Way of Liberation", and two other parables fill out this book. The parables are quirky little originalities, and that is their attraction. The unroundness of mathematics (the lie of the truth) keeps the world from disappearing in a fifty-page book you can hide behind a single hand. (44 pp.)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

Elaine Equi, **VIEWS WITHOUT ROOMS**: Quiet, subtle poetry that is almost stingy with its words. Equi writes the barest sketches of feelings but somehow packs a lot in. "Evolution", for example, captures all of human history in 20 well-chosen words. The style seems appropriate for the small intimate pages here. (46 pp.)

Various authors, **FIRBANKIANA**: Ronald Firbank was an author who flourished in England in the early years of this century, writing Impressionist novels. He was also a true English eccentric, given to sitting upside-down in theatres, eating strange meals of champagne and peaches, and darting away from human contact. This book is a series of short reminiscences of Firbank, collected from the works of Sewell Stokes, Aldous Huxley, Lord Berners, and many others. Firbank reminds me a bit of some of the more flamboyant artists on the current margins—except that he apparently had immensely more style than the current crop. (97 pp.)

* * *

Judson Jerome, ed., **POET'S MARKET** ($18.95 from F&W Publications, 1507 Dana Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45207): This hardcover is compiled yearly by Jud for Writer's Digests Books. It's a comprehensive index of publications, large and small, that publish poetry. In addition, there's information on Contests, Awards, Writing Colonies, etc. and a handful or two of invaluable advice & information on the mechanics of marketing poetry.

Each publication is described in concise detail by Jud (usually with some words from the editor) then pigeon-holed into at least 1 of 5 categories. Four of these categories are based on a continuum from novice to insider, the remaining category identifying "special topic" publications. From the descriptions at the beginning of the book, writers can determine their category, then proceed through the listings to find potential markets; and there's a geographical cross-index for those seeking to publish in a particular locale.

This is a slick, well-conceived, and easy-to-use index. The price may seem steep for some small press folks, but with the potential savings in postage it's a worthwhile consideration—imagine eliminating those costly games of Rubber Manuscript. If nothing else, persuade your librarians to get this one on their shelves and keep it there. (515 pp. hc)(Guest review by PJ Bellomo)

* * *

Crad Kilodney, **EXCREMENT** ($8 from PO Box 281, Stn. S, Toronto, ONT, M5M 4L7, CANADA): Crad may be the only author in the world who supports himself by selling books on the street, day in, day out—and he's been doing so for twenty years. This is an autobiographical work which gives some insight into what the job is like. Mostly, it's about people—both the ones intertwined with Crad's own life and the ones who pass him on the street, mostly as part of an uncaring herd. A couple of love affairs flare and sputter out. The books sell well some days and poorly a lot of the time. The panorama of street life—winos, panhandlers, hookers, crazies—passes by, and Crad gets it all down.

This is not as absurdly funny as some of Crad's more recent books (see FF33 for a review of two of them). But it is fascinating, in its subject matter and in its bluntness. Crad takes the scalpel to his own life and lays it open for all to see, bluntly listing the drawbacks of his freedom as well as the advantages. (88 pp. tpb)

* * *

R.A. Lafferty, **SINDBAD: THE 13TH VOYAGE** ($9.95 from Broken Mirrors Press, PO Box 473, Cambridge, MA 02238): A brand-new novel from Lafferty, an acknowledged master of science fiction. Well, anyways, the genre is as much science fiction as anything, though (as always) the style is marvelously digressive and partakes of fantasy and historical romance as well.

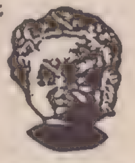
In this work, Lafferty follows Sindbad in his hunt for the mysterious Caliph Harun Al-Rashid. So far, straight **ARABIAN NIGHTS** stuff—but it proves that this Sindbad is a master spy from a faraway planet, that Scherazade is a time-traveler from the American Midwest, and so on. To top it off, there is a false Sindbad who switches identities with the real one, animated robots and ships, demons, heroes, battles, and much more.

It's a charming work, and one with a lot of depth. Don't expect to get it all on the first reading—indeed, trying to "get" a Lafferty work is usually a mistake. I recommend instead enjoying it by immersion, exploring the wild world of past/future/Mideast displayed here. (158 pp. tpb)

* * *

Ted Nace & Michael Gardner, **LASERJET UNLIMITED** (Edition II)($24.95 plus $3 s&h from Peachpit Press, Inc., 1085 Keith Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708): From where I sit, it's obvious that computers are moving, slowly but steadily, into fanzine publishing. Not only do I see more computerized zines, but I get more phone calls and letters requesting help. And at the tip of this wedge come the folks with enough money and technical savvy to pick up a laser printer. If it's a LaserJet, this book should be part of the purchase.

Nace and Gardner cover all the LaserJets up to the Model IID (but not the newer IIP). They start with the basics, explaining how the printers work and how to use the control panel, in a more lucid fashion than the official HP manuals manage. Part II is on word processing, detailing how to set 5 major programs up to make good use of a LaserJet, and addressing such issues as merging text and graphics. Similar sections do the same for graphics programs, spreadsheets and desktop publishing. Part VI is devoted to fonts, and Part VII discusses special topics. These are some of the most useful pages, pulling together information on the arcane art of programming in PCL (and without buying HP's expensive technical reference manual), printing envelopes, doing screen snapshots or using a computer that's not IBM compatible. The main part of the book concludes by looking at various hardware add-ons, and an



"The prose equivilent of R. Crumb and S. Clay Wilson stoned on evil speed and sterno." Hakim Bey

"There's some ugly imaginations behind this one." Fact Sheet Five

"Striking and original." Pub. Weekly

BIG GURL

"Something original, something entertaining, & something not bound by the conventions of good taste." Toxic Horror

"Puts the punk back in Splatterpunk." Rave Reviews

253 pp. novel. Five dollars from Thom Metzger
Box 25193 Rochester, NY 14625

appendix has extensive Q&A information to solve most common problems immediately.

Nace and Gardner obviously know what they're doing, since they produced the book itself on a souped-up LaserJet. More importantly, they know how to write as well as how to program, and their clear explanations will help almost any user. There's only a few holes here—as with other Peachpit books, they're not good at identifying low-cost solutions—but overall, I find this to be an essential reference in my own use of this printer. (512 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Glenda Tennant Neff (ed.), 1990 **WRITER'S MARKET** ($23.95 from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): For years the annual edition of the **WRITER'S MARKET** has been an indispensable tool for me as a writer. This year, it lists 4000 buyers of freelance material, ranging from markets for short stories and novels to greeting cards and screenplays.

The best thing about the **WRITER'S MARKET** is that although you may think that only a small section of this hefty volume will aid your writing endeavors (for example, there are just eighteen pages of literary magazine markets), the numerous articles scattered throughout the book are miniature writing courses in themselves. There is "The Business of Writing" which covers in detail things like manuscript preparations, marketing and copyright. "Since You Asked...Questions About Writing and Publishing", by the editor, answers twenty of the most frequently asked questions about writing and publishing. Fifteen editors and publishers of diverse magazines participate in "Close-Up"" interviews where they are given a chance to clarify what they are looking for from freelance writers and what they feel their publications are about.

In addition, this year there is a special feature called the Writers' Roundtable where three full-time writers respond individually to common business problems—such as late payments, simultaneous submissions and erratic funds—and share techniques freelancers can use to solve them. There is also a special feature on First Novelists, where six writers discuss their novels from writing to promotion and supply tips on how to avoid pitfalls of publishing a book (especially with a large commercial publishing company) for the first time.

Since last year's **WRITER'S MARKET**, there have been 800 new listings, and 85% of the material has been updated. I don't know how pertinent that may be to the relatively small section of markets the reader may actually be using, but the articles themselves are worth the expense of getting a new edition. They contain thoughtful, sensitive and unselfish information and pointers from published writers. The **WRITER'S MARKET** will rapidly become a writer's bible, something you can dip into from which you'll always come up with something practical and maybe even a little bit inspiring.

Bear in mind though that a lot of the markets in this book aren't going to apply to you—if you're a novel writer, you'll find that there is a considerably larger section on markets for trade and technical journals. To make up for this, there is also a long list of author's agents and writing contests.

Where applicable, each of the listings include the magazine's or publisher's address, the contact editor's name, a phone number or FAX number, the size of the market, copyright information, readership, rights purchased, submission requirements, reporting time, rules for writer's guidelines, types of manuscripts needed, submissions information, word length, payment rates and tips from the editors on what they prefer to get in the mail.

The **WRITER'S MARKET** is in its 61st year and still going strong. My only disappointment with it is that it doesn't have a wider listing of fiction markets, and its listing of poetry markets is minimal, but then that's because Writer's Digest puts out annual volumes of **POETRY MARKETS** and **FICTION MARKETS** as well. Rather than buying all three, however, you'd probably be better off checking them out first and seeing which would be most helpful to you as a writer—the **POETRY MARKETS**, for example, actually reprints a few stanzas in each listing of a poem that magazine has bought and which the editor feels is in some way representative of the quality and style of work they purchase.

One warning about the **WRITER'S MARKET** is that is sometimes seems an overwhelming then to open and read through, because there are so many markets and so much information is packed into the paragraphs about each one. You could easily end up sitting for hours, writing queries and licking stamps to paste on self-addressed stamped envelopes, when you'd only intended to peek at one possible market.

By the end of the year, I find that my copy of this book has been well-thumbed, the pages bursting with notes and scribbles. The **WRITER'S MARKET** is well-researched; most of the markets they list don't go out of print as quickly as you'd imagine, so you rarely get the annoyance of having a manuscript returned without any forwarding address. The information that is given is clear and concise, and it is presented in such a way that it will benefit both aspiring and seasoned writers. (1056 pp. hc) (Guest review by Evelyn Lau)

★★★★★

John Noble, Dan Spitzer, and Scott Wayne, **MEXICO: A TRAVEL SURVIVAL KIT** ($17.95 from Lonely Planet, Embarcadero West, 112 Linden St., Oakland, CA 94607): Lonely Planet guidebooks offer the practical traveler phrasebooks, trekking guides, "shoestring" guides for low budget travel, and "travel survival kits" which cover a single country for a range of budgets. The guidebooks cover most accesible parts of the Earth and are renowned for their usefulness

This volume is co-authored by three experienced travel writers. Nearly a thousand towns, beaches, parks, and archeological sites are described. Larger and more interesting places usually receive more coverage. The authors provide information on where to sleep, tips on restaurants, points of interest, and travel access to each site. A hundred single-page (or smaller) maps complement a few color photos and the occasional graphic.

A one hundred page introductory section gives general facts about the country's history, ecology, culture, and religion . Tips on working, camping, shopping, and generally existing in Mexico are abundant. There are even a few pages about beer and tequila; Salt, Lemon, Tequila, Salt is the "proper" way to do tequila and you should eat the worm fried. Language coverage is limited to a half dozen pages of bare bone phrases like "My car has broken down!"

This survival kit should prove invaluable to anyone contemplating an extended trip to Mexico but most armchair travelers and many planning only short-term stays would probably enjoy Carl Franz's **THE PEOPLE'S GUIDE TO MEXICO** ($10.50 from John Muir Publications in Santa Fe, New Mexico) much more. It is much more fun, has a richer vocabulary and offers a more tangible "feel" of what it is like to be in Mexico than the Lonely Planet book. (940 pp. tpb) (Guest review by Dave Kolasa)

★★★★★

Kirk Polking (Ed.), **THE WRITER'S FRIENDLY LEGAL GUIDE** ($16.95 + 3.00 S&H from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45207. Visa and Mastercard orders: 1-800-543-4644; in Ohio: 1-800-551-0884) ISBN: 0-89879-373-4 This is one of Writer's Digest's series of reference works, edited by the lady who directs the Writer's Digest School, and who has edited a number of their other reference works.

There are fifteen chapters in this book, most of them written by lawyers (citing all sorts of applicable cases), so the going gets a little tedious at times (e.g., "As comforting as Middlebrook, Wheeler, and Springer maybe to authors, lawyers are wary of relying on them as a fail-safe counterweight to Brindim.) Fortunately, you can get the meat out of this book in less than an hour, and then come back to it later whenever you want it for a reference. Each chapter starts with a half-page list of the items to be discussed and ends with a half to one page review in the form of a factual checklist that tells you what you should have learned. Instant smarts: it's great.

Topics covered (some in more than one chapter) are freedom of the press, invasion of privacy, libel in fact and fiction, pornograpy, photography, copyrights, protecting ideas in Hollywood, contracts, taxes, and the author's estate. There is a quick info finder in the front and an index in the back, along with a glossary of the pertinent legalese. All in all, a very handy little package. (192 pp. hc)(Guest review by F.C. Gunderloy, Jr.)

★★★★★

REAL GOODS ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCEBOOK 1990 ($10 from 966 Mazzoni Ln., Ukiah, CA 95482): I've mentioned this annual in the past, but it just keeps getting better, so it's time to buy it again. Real Goods sells all sorts of renewable energy resources, from solar panels to wood-fired water heaters to windmills to pumps to...well, twelve-volt duck pluckers. In part, this is their catalog, but it's also much more. That's because about a third of the bulk is careful explanations of things like how to size a PV system, the various choices for water pumping, the pluses and minuses of compact fluorescent bulbs, and so on. The result is a valuable reference work for anyone concerned with energy independence, whether they buy from Real Goods or not. (Of course, since Real Goods will match or beat prices on most items, there's little reason not to shop with them). And to top it all off, the purchase price is refundable on your first $100 order. The bottom line is that if you're considering a solar system, a waterwheel, a windmill or similar technologies, you need this book. (320pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Chuck Shepherd, John J. Kohut, & Roland Sweet, **NEWS OF THE WEIRD** ($6.95 + $1.50 p&h from Plume, New American Library, PO Box 999, Bergenfield, NJ 07621): Chuck Shepherd has been collecting off-the-wall news stories for over a decade now. For most of that time he reprinted the stories—taken strictly from mainstream newspapers, not tabloids—in his low-publicity **VIEW FROM THE LEDGE**, which was so undercover that he refused to permit a review in FF. Lately, however, this collection has grown and so has Chuck's public profile. **VFTL** has gone public,.excerpts from it are a nationally syndicated column, and now this book—with fellow weird-hunters Kohut and Sweet—is out on a major publisher.

It's a great collection and (thanks to the fact that it's made up of hundreds of one-paragraph stories) perfect bathroom reading. No matter how you look at it, this is one strange world we live in, and the people are the strangest of all. The clippings are divided into dozens of categories from "Medical Milestones" to "Sex Is Its Own Punishment". Just as a teaser, I'll leave you with one short item from the book:

"An Alaskan assemblyman introduced a bill to punish 'public flatulence, crepitation, gaseous emission, and miasmic effluence,' carrying a penalty of $100." (162pp tpb)

★★★★★

Rev. Ivan Stang, **THREE-FISTED TALES OF "BOB"** ($10.95 list from Fireside Books; ISBN 0-671-67190-1): I'm not sure what the public is going to make of this book, but to the SubGenius in the know it's a lot of fun. What we have here is a collection of adventure stories set in the world of SubGenius mythology and practice, rife with mentions of the pipe-smoking savior and loaded with in-jokes. Stang has managed to round up pieces from a lot of big names; contributors include William S. Burroughs, Robert Anton Wilson, Lewis Shiner and John Shirley, as well as a clench of SubGeniod bigwigs like Stang, Guy Deuel, Puzzling Evidence and Janor Hypercleats.

The writing itself is a very mixed bag. One of the best bits is G. Gordon Gordon's "The Vreedeez Sanction", an action-loaded escapade featuring high espionage and secret weapons in a bizarre cyberpunk future. Robert Anton Wilson contributes more heavily-footnoted conspiracy theory in "The Horror on Howth Hill" (indeed, most of the writers here are off on their own kicks as well as SubGeniod ones; this reaches absurdity in "OPENQUOTEBob" and the Oxygen Wars" by Waves Forest, which is simply an excuse to preach his own brand of pseudoscience once again) while Harry S. Robins provides an excellent Lovecraft pastiche in "The Smoker From the Shadows".

The verdict? If you're a SubGenius, go for it. If you're a Pink, go for it anyhow; you'll think you "get" it and the Church can use your money. Fans of other fringes, notably cyberpunk, should consider checking this out as well. But if you're perfectly normal, go watch the cartoons instead. (343 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Gayl Teller, **AT THE INTERSECTION OF EVERYTHING YOU HAVE EVER LOVED** ($10 from San Diego Poet's Press, PO Box 8630, La Jolla, CA 92038): Teller's work resists characterization because of her flexibility—now a big idea, now a home vignette, now long lines, now a zig-zag form down the page. Through it all here is a voice of exploration and wonder, able to find things to write about in a dinner being made or the end of a Jewish life or the structure of the universe. Her portraits of tangled emotional family lives are done with surgical skill, encapsulating all the past interactions between people into just a few lines. Strong and simple works worth reading. (106 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

TimoThy Traquair, **THE ALTERNATIVE LAND ACQUISITION HANDBOOK** ($20 from Ridgehaven, PO Box 849, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): The Homestead Act is now defunct. However, there are still ways to get a piece of land in this country short of finding the owner and buying it. As the author points out, "This is the hard way. The easy way is to whip out your check book and buy it." But a lot of us don't have that much in the checking account, and so creativity is in order. TimoThy has come up with half a dozen legal ways to get land, mostly rural, without buying it from the current owner. The two he gives the most space to are mining claims and tax delinquent properties, but all six are discussed in enough detail to be practical for the adventurous. Make no mistake, you're not going to get downtown L.A. for free. But you might get 40 acres up in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, which sounds like a better deal to me anyhow. Don't buy this unless you're really serious; you're paying for information and research time, not sheer number of pages. But if you are serious, it's a bargain. (98 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

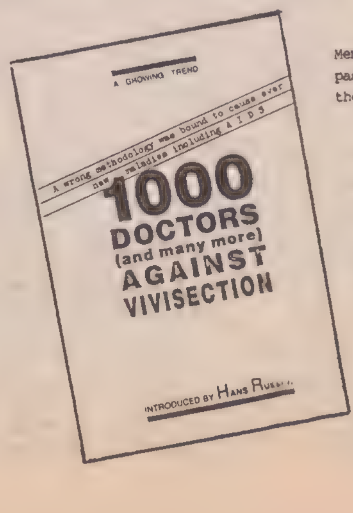
Frank Van Keeken, **THE COLLECTED STORIES OF AUGUST CASTILLE** ($6.95 from Mangajin, PO Box 617, Stn. R, Toronto, ONT M4G 4E1, CANADA): Van Keeken is a standup comic, and these are some of his routines transferred on to the printed page, with illustrations from Louise Moon. Each piece here (13 in all) is quite short, just enough to build up to a punch and then on to the next thing. The Castille persona talks about people who have strange lives: a hole in one man's head gets him into a circus where dogs jump through it, another man has to die and go to hell to get enough sleep. A few bits will strike many as blasphemous, especially "Stigmata Guy", which ends with Chris becoming a washed-up alcoholic. Funny in an aggressive sort of way, with Moon's illustrations being at least as amusing as Castille's rants. (80 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Rolf Vasellari, **THE JUDASJESUS** ($15 surface/$25 air from Black Sheep press, Zypressenstrasse 82, CH-8004 Zurich, SWITZERLAND): This one-shot anthology of works of poetry, drawing and photography is meant to examine the bifurcated psyche of humans: the evil Judas living in the same body with the good Jesus. The most unsatisfying aspect of the whole collection is how infrequently this topic is actually part of an included work. Most of the works have a roughness to them (in execution and worldview) that helps hold them together in a piece, but too much of it still comes off as unconsidered and too little concerned with the Jesus aspect of people. Vasellari attempts to stick to the topic himself, but he is nearly alone in this quest. Interesting are a couple of drawings and writing by Willem Dafoe, but only because he's a well-known actor; the work itself is uninspired and unfinished. The real stand-outs in the book are the photo-montages of Richard Beymer: haunting and powerful, and resonating with after-shocks. (200 pp. tpb)(Guest review by Geof Huth)

★★★★★

Carl Watson, **ANARCADIUM PAN** ($4.95 from Erie Street Press, 221 S. Clinton, Oak Park, IL 60302): A fat perfect-bound collection, split up into six chapbook-length sections. Carl seems to see the world as a seamless web, capturing images that bubble up from the subconscious and polishing them on to the page. This stuff demands


A GROWING TREND
A wrong methodology was bound to cause ever new maladies including A I D S
1000 DOCTORS (and many more) AGAINST VIVISECTION
INTRODUCED BY HANS RUESCH

Members of the medical profession,
past and present, speak out against
the futility of animal experiments.

Compiled and introduced by Swiss
medical historian Hans Ruesch.
281 pages $19.95

SPECIAL FF OFFER:
Send check for $22 and we'll
throw in a $15 subscription
membership to HR's CIVIS REPORT
and THE CIVIL ABOLITIONIST.

CIVIS, Box 26FF, Swain NY 14884

work to understand, but one message seems to be that the world is all a rather morbid joke: "One billion kind of spindle-headed queer creatures surround him/The too many cells of selves, whose voices a merry organ sound/Chew his corruptible self." (120 pp. tpb)

* * * * *

Thomas Wiloch, **TALES OF LORD SHANTIH** ($10 from Unicorn Press, PO Box 3307, Greensboro, NC 27402): A lovely little book, printed on recycled heavy paper with handset type and handbound. The contents are fun too, a series of twenty "prose poems" about Lord Shantih (aka Siddhartha). I don't know if these are traditional or inventions of Wiloch, but whichever, they have the proper teaching spirit, and are perfectly engimatic. (They remind me somewhat of the Nasrudin tales recorded by Idries Shah). The whole is illustrated with twenty simple woodbloc prints by David Nikias. An artistic book that rewards reading as well as looking. (D-45t)

BOOK NOTES

•**Books Are Everything** (R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475) sent me the catalogs for their current auction and sale of collectible paperbacks. You can get on their mailing list for five bucks; after that, continued bidding will keep you on.

•**Bump in the Night Books** (133-135 Elfreths Alley, Philadelphia, PA 19106) are "Specialists in imaginative fiction" whose catalog consists primarily of SF, horror and fantasy first editions.

•**Dædalus Books** (PO Box 9132, Hyattsville, MD 20781-0932) is a remainder house that caters to the intelligentsia. A request should get you their latest catalog.

•**DREAMSHORE** (PO Box 1387, Bloomington, IN 47402) is moving from fanzine to book publication. Their first will be **STAR*TRIPS**, a collection of columns expanded and connected, with additions, commentary, updates, reviews, etc. They'll focus on the sSeedy side of the New Age Movement, from Theosophy to Unarius. Not Hallelujah or sneering skepticism, but still criticial of New Age from an informed point of view. The book will be $7.50 when available.

•**Chris Drumm Books** (PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226) sells all manner of used and new SF paperbacks, as well as Chris's own series of booklets with work by Lafferty and other SF greats. Send a buck to get on the mailing list.

•**Richard Ford** (PO Box 911, Newport, TN 37821) is selling reprints of various obscure works of Biblical exegesis, apocrypha, Tim leary, masonry and other goodies. You can get his catalog for a large SASE with 45¢ postage.

•**Intercultural Press** (PO Box 700, Yarmouth, ME 04906) specializes in worldwide cultural studies, with the emphasis on what happens when different cultures meet.

•**LLEWELLYN NEW TIMES** is essentially the catalog of Llewellyn Books, who print all sorts of New Age, magick, astrology, aromatherapy, and similar works. They've put out something over 900 of these monthly write-ups, loaded with ads from all over the New Age map. You can get the latest for $2 from P Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383.

•**Loompanics** (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) got another catalog supplement out in time for the holidays, full of books like **THE FINAL SECRET OF PEARL HARBOR** and **ADVANCED LOCK PICKING**. It also reprints an article on squatting from **LIFE IS FREE**. A buck should land a copy.

•**The Mackay Society** (PO Box 131, Ansonia Stn., New York, NY 10023) has put out a catalog of the books they offer, chiefly anarchist and sexual liberation in nature. Send a couple of stamps to see a copy.

•**David McClintock** (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) sells horror and science fiction rarities and collectors editions and just plain worthwhile reading by mail. Send 25¢ for his current catalog.

•**Mindset Press** has two books of interest to fans of STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION coming out soon. **THE 24TH CENTURY TECHNICAL MANUAL** will feature 60 pages of behind-the-scenes and production material for $6.45, and **SPINERISMS** will be 90 pages on the career of Brent Spiner, including his work before the show, for $12.95. You can order either one from Mindset at Box 7000-822, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.

•**MYSTERY SALES LIST** comes from Jeffrey Meyerson, 8801 Shore Rd. #6A-East, Brooklyn, NY 11209. His 83rd list is just out, with almost 600 vintage mysteries for sale. Send a buck for a sample.

•**The Omega Press** (RD1 Box 1030E, New Lebanon, NY 12125-9706) offers a variety of books "for exploring the many faces of spirit". They're especially strong in Sufi works. Their catalog should be available for free.

•**The Penfield Press** (215 Brown St., Iowa City, IA 52245) "is a small publisher featuring ethnic titles that include recipes". Recent titles include **POLISH-AMERICAN WAYS: RECIPES AND TRADITIONS** and **SCANDINAVIAN HOLIDAY RECIPES.**

•**Popular Reality Press** (1264 Creal Cres., Ann Arbor, MI 48103) is having a sale through March 31, including the Baboon Dooley book for only $6 and Jack Saunder's **FORTY** for $4.

•**SABOTAGE IN THE AMERICAN WORKPLACE** is scheduled to be the next book from Pressure Drop Press (PO Box 460754, San Francisco, CA 94146). They're looking for true stories of workplace sabotage, from large-scale theft to systems crashing to simple slacking off. Get in touch if you have something they might be able to use.

•**Simmer Pot Press** (Rte 3 Box 973A, Boone, NC 28607) "is on the lookout for cookbooks in all categories to offer mail order customers in its upcoming drop ship catalogs"—as well as food letters, cooking magazines, and other food-related catalogs. Contact Hank Kellner for more information.

•**South End Press** (116 St. Botolph St., Boston, MA 02115) carry "over 150 titles promoting social change", including works by Bookchin and Chomsky. A buck ought to land their current catalog.

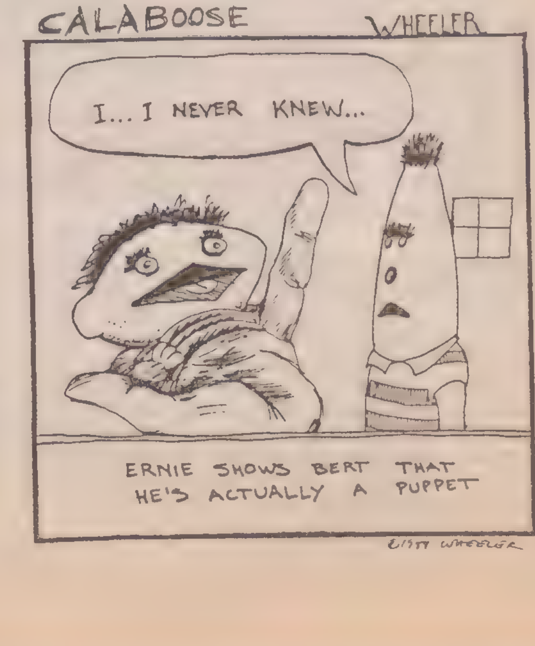
•**Spinsters/Aunt Lute** (PO Box 410687, San Francisco, CA 94141) is a women's press dedicated to publishing "strong voices by strong women". Among other things, they're the folks who published **WHY CAN'T SHARON KOWALSKI COME HOME?**. Unfortunately, they're hurting for cash right now (books like this do not become bstsellers), so if you want to support a good feminist cause now would be a good time to send them a few bucks.

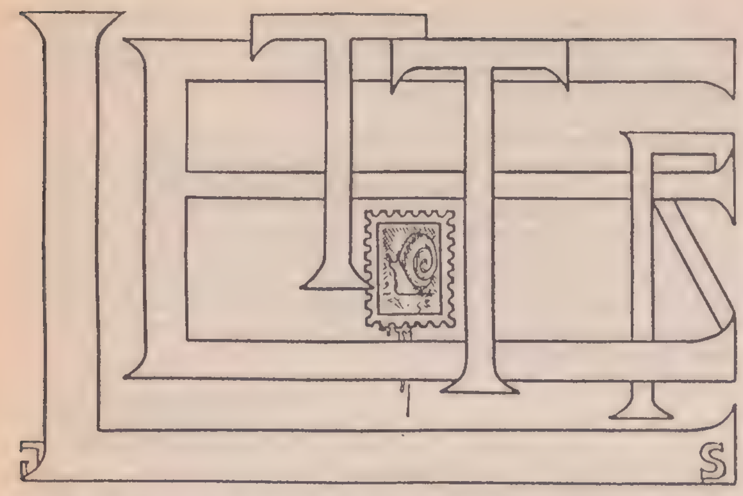
•**Tiger Lily Books** (PO Box 111, Piercy, CA 95467) is a mail-order source for all manner of children's books, carefully selected, plus a few on other topics like pregnancy or finding time to write. Kathy Epling, who runs the business, also finds space for short essays on her life in the country, recipes for bread, and other good things. A very friendly catalog. which you can get just for the asking.

•**Water Row Books** (PO Box 438, Sudbury, MA 01776) has their 43rd catalog of beatnik and other books for sale available now. It lists and describes over 300 items with prices starting around $5.

•**Western World Press** (PO Box 366, Sun City, CA 92381) has issued a new edition of Max Stirner's **THE EGO & HIS OWN**. $8.95 postpaid, $9.50 in California.

•**Mark V. Ziesing Book Catalog** #84 is out, expanded to 8 1/2 x 11 and with more commentary about books from outside writers than ever before. Mark is my main source for SF and other crazy books, and his thumbnail reviews in the catalog part make for great reading. If you're a reader or collector, send him a buck for the current catalog.


CALABOOSE
WHEELER
I... I NEVER KNEW...
ERNIE SHOWS BERT THAT HE'S ACTUALLY A PUPPET
WHEELER



I was pleased to see a review of Cookie Mueller's book, **FAN MAIL, FRANK LETTERS, AND CRANK CALLS** in #33.

I was a "casual acquaintance" of Cookie's, chatting with her every so often at poetry readings & other cultural events in New York City. I was always amazed at first when she remembered who I was. She was truly delightful to talk to, and I enjoyed her writing as well.

Sadly, she passed away on Nov. 10, 1989, due to AIDS complications. **VILLAGE VOICE** columnist Michael Musto said she "brought a bracing freshness and anti-intellectualism to her views on art, relationships, and society. Witty, iconoclastic Cookie['s death]...is one pain that doesn't make anyone feel good."

In your review of her book, you mentioned that she was known for starring in John Waters's films. Among her many other accomplishments, she had a cool monthly column on art in **DETAILS** magazines.

I'm enclosing a photo of Cookie (as a remembrance). I took it on January 1, 1989, at a special New Year's Day poetry reading in a NYC church, That night, she read a funny story called "Julie: The Mystery of Tap Water", about a friend who went on a water diet, melted away, and was now coming out of sprinklers, water fountains, and even out of the faucet into Cookie's own bathwater!

That's how I'd like to remember Cookie herself—no longer a "mystery", for she left a little bit of her exuberance with everyone she touched. But she didn't dissipate into running water like her character Julie...more like ever-flowing sweetness.

If any other fans of Cookie would like a color photo of her, I'll send one for 40¢ & an SASE.

Glen Venezio
2315 Bayhead Dr.
Parlin, NJ 08859-2423

★★★★★

I'm looking for bands to send me tapes containing songs about holidays (x-mas, new years, halloween, whatever). I'm making a compilation for Christmas next year (1990). I can use any and all styles of music, although I don't really care for hardcore or heavy industrial stuff....Another thing, I don't want any really well known groups or artists, just lonely backwoods starving, struggling, poor, and last but not least *funny* bands.

Tony Mentzer
c/o The Space Station
101 Sharon Rd.
West Middlesex, PA 16159

★★★★★

The correspondence about "offensive" covers interests me. Suppose we take this matter really seriously. Your first step has to be to estimate what proportion of your readership would be significantly offended by various visual elements in various categories: sexual, religious, political, and so on. A reader opinion poll would be necessary.

Your next step would be to decide what degree of mass-offense is acceptable. One reader? Ten? A hundred?

Clearly, you have better things to do. And clearly, as soon as we start trying to make art conform to ideology, it becomes an exercise in folly—like trying to define "pornography".

It seems to me that if you edit and publish a magazine, you can put anything you damn well want on the cover; and if some people don't like it, they don't have to buy it. Period! You have no obligation to cater to the sensitivities of any special-interest group. If they don't approve of your policies, let them go publish their own magazine.

Maybe this sounds an insensitive, hardcore attitude, but I am sick of seeing pleas for censorship couched in morally self-righteous terms designed to make people feel guilty. It's especially offensive when the people making the fuss are themselves involved in the arts in some way.

Charles Platt

/* Yes, I can publish whatever I want, and it's up to readers to decide whether or not they want to support it. But I also have to cater to my own sensitivities. If I don't think about what's going on the cover, I could publish something offensive to myself by mistake, and not realize the implications until someone else draws my attention to them. */

★★★★★

The letter is coming to you from the Texas Department of Criminal (in)Justice about a matter that concerns Texas prisoners, and that I hope also concerns the small publishers of newspapers, magazines and periodicals of general distribution in this country and other countries.

On 12-15-89 I was denied the right to mail a sealed letter c/o the Editor of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. I was informed by the prison bureaucrats that my letter did not meet the criteria as media correspondence. Since **FACTSHEET FIVE** is not listed in the Ayers Directory of Publications the administration denied your publication as a legitimate media source, even though they allow me to receive it into the institution through the mail.

This censorship cannot be allowed to proceed according to the whims of the prison bureaucrats here in Texas, because access to the press gives the incarcerated person an opportunity to communicate with the general public.

On Sept. 20, 1978, suit was brought by prison inmates here in Texas challenging the constitutionality of the correspondence rules and practices here in the Department of Corrections. This case (Guajardo v. Estelle, 580 F.2d 748) gave prisoners in Texas the right to send media mail unopened to the editorial or reporting staff of the press. Press is defined (in Saxbe v. Washington Post Co., 94 S.Ct.2811) as follows: "A newspaper entitled to second class mailing privileges; a magazine or periodical of general distribution; a national or international news service; a radio or television network or station."

The constitutional validity of incarcerated persons to conduct inmate-press correspondence without censorship only if the form of media you wish to send your unopened letter to happens to be included on the system's prior approval list (Ayers Directory of Publications) needs to be challenged. Why couldn't The Progressive Periodicals Directory or Directory of Alternative and Radical Publications be used along with Ayers to verify legitimate publications and their editors? Could it be that prison bureaucrats only want prisoners to mail unopened inmate-press correspondence to those they approve of? This decision to interrupt the inmate-press communication process before any media correspondence can be mailed seems to be akin to a prior restraint.

Small publishers and oppressed people of this world who are concerned about our Constitutional rights, please lend us Texas prisoners your support and write to the Mail Systems Coordinator Panel, PO Box 99, Huntsville, TX, 77340 and request that it stop the unlawful censorship of inmate-press correspondence. Also protest the use of only the Ayers Directory of Publications to verify legitimate publications

Thank you for your support.

Michael P. Kelly #493005
Box 16—Eastham Unit
Lovelady, TX 75851

★★★★★

I am currently trying to assemble enough work to publish a small informal literary 'zine. This 'zine will be composed of very short prose (less than 700 words), poetry, collage, art and opinion; in the tradition of, say, **TWO-TON SANTA**.

Fido von Sydo
PO Box 552
Orono, ME 04473

★★★★★

I read with interest in the latest **FF5** your action in solidarity with the Art Strike, and commend you for having taken a position. This package will be the last one you will receive from me for the next three years. And henceforth, I resign my position as **FF5** xerografist.

Vis. my position towards the Art Strike: I quite simply could not stop producing in the literal sense of an Art Strike (and in any case I don't think that this interpretation is the most useful). The commencement of the Art Strike on Jan. 1, 1990, and the period of time that it has delineated, is for me, more significant in that it allows opportunities for breaking with past patterns. Accordingly I will be making a number of "surgical strikes" on my present artmaking activities, coupled with a reorientation of my creative priorities. For me this idea of "reorientation" (or re-direction) is one of the strengths, and indeed, perhaps the most active and constructive element of the Art Strike.

Stephen Perkins

★★★★★

I'm sure a lot of blind men will be interested to learn that "...men cannot have sex unless they are first aroused by the sight of the woman." (Ace Backwords)

R. Miller

★★★★★

According to the postmaster at Ellicott Station, Buffalo, NY, Hank Purcell Jr. (aka Lollipop Power Press) is now deceased.

It is believed he died sometime around Thanksgiving.

It is also believed that much of his correspondence may now be in police hands and that any mail addressed to him at his Ellicott Station PO Box may be seized by the postal authorities.

A recent sting operation arouses this suspicion.

Anonymous

★★★★★

Prisoners, organizations, publishers, businesses and free world people interested in being listed in the 1990 P.A.N.A.L. (Prisoners' Anarchist Network At Large) Networking Directory should write us *now* and we will send you a listing form. This directory will list your networking interests, an item or service you offer, messages, ads, and lots of other good stuff.

Attorneys, medical professionals, caseworkers, paralegals and people interested in prisoner volunteer work that wish to be active in P.A.N.A.L. are needed. Those seriously interested should write or call (after 5PM) Ted at (518)-383-0459.

The P.A.N.A.L. founder has recently won a federal lawsuit against the U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons on the legal mail policy (28 CFR Sec. 540.18 & 19). We would like to hear from all prisoners and law firms who have litigation pending on this issue. On December 1, 1989, a federal court issued an injunction against the BOP on this case. Please send us copies of your litigation and we will do the same.

Michael J. Stotts
P.A.N.A.L.
PO Box 4167
Halfmoon, NY 12065

★★★★★

I do feel prompted to comment on pj's review of "There can be gods" (FF33, p66). It states that Aya Katz is the editor of this collection, while as a matter of fact I am listed as editor. We were both surprised to see "gods" classified as a religious publication. After some reflection we understood how a superficial reader looking for catch-words might arrive at such a conclusion. Terms are sprinkled here and there, that are drawn from theological contexts. Biblical themes and settings are invoked by the Israeli writers, who consider them part of their historical heritage. Virtually all the contributors to "gods" are non-believers, and a closer reading would reveal that the subject matter is not religion at all. The terms "left" and "liberal" are similarly misplaced.

Amnon Katz

★★★★★

Thanks very much for the notice you gave **LITERARY MAGAZINE REVIEW** in **FACTSHEET FIVE** 32. On the strength of your recommendations we picked up a couple of single copy orders and I was able to use your paragraph to boost editorial staff morale and to correct a dean.

Thanks almost as much for sending us a copy of **FF** 32. It has been circulating among the editors. All of us have admired its energy and the seriousness with which it was put together. We don't keep up with the independent magazine scene as well as we'd like to, partly because independent editors don't think to send us review copies and partly because we've been unable to find intelligent and informed reviewers (with Richard Peabody, who is mostly interested in British titles, the exception) to write disinterested omnibus notices of similar or associated periodicals. If you can steer anybody our way, please let me know.

G.W. Clift
KSU Dept. of English
Denison Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506

★★★★★

Your financial problem is simply due to the fact that you're too nice. Here you are, reviewing all these zines, many of which would never be seen by anyone if not for F5, and then you go and give out free issues in return! You're already doing us a favor! I think you should charge people who send you things to review, if they want to see that review, maybe about a dollar an issue. Just think, if everyone who sends you stuff got a 5-issue subscription for $5, you'd be making at *least* $4000 more yearly, I'd be willing to pay my share, and I bet lots of your other readers would too, unless they're just greedy idiots. It might even help weed out some of the non-legitimate ones.

Susan
THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC

/* This idea (or closely related ones, such as sending tearsheets instead of full magazines) has come up a number of times, and I'm still not fond of it. Considering the fanzine community as a whole, it's pretty clear to me that the publishers are the people with the *least* money. Certainly most are more impoverished than their readers. Those few of us who actually make a profit are incredibly lucky. And **FF** depends very heavily on these dedicated publishers; without them, there would be nothing for me to review. Sure, I *could* hold the reviews hostage, not publishing unless they were paid for, but it feels wrong to me. On the other hand, I certainly won't turn down any donations, and I deeply appreciate those publishers who feel that **FF** is worthwhile enough that they want to contribute financially as well as creatively. Those who feel this way can send me six bucks and get their copies first class instead of bulk rate for a year. Or they can send more and get gratitude in addition. */

★★★★★

I have a suggestion that I believe would greatly increase the worth of your zine to me, and probably others. Add a small symbol (diamond?) before a review if the item is a zine or periodical that you *haven't* seen or reviewed before. That way I can scan the pages to pick up on the really new ones, even if they are only new to you. There is a great deal of info packed into your reviews and I don't want you to change them, their format, or order, but merely to highlight with a simple flag when a new zine comes along. I bet others would find this tiny feature a real plus. Hope you consider it.

Kevin Kelly
WHOLE EARTH REVIEW

/* Thanks for the idea, Kevin. I like it. In fact, I'm using it. */

★★★★★

Thanks for joining is for the opening of "Samizine '89: The 2nd Annual North Brooklyn Small Press Convention". Steve and I are writing this letter to inform your readers about the show, since so many of them submitted work and were included in the exhibition's installation. Many also attended the opening.

First off, it was a real big success in about every way possible (except no one got rich). It caught the attention of both the underground and mainstream press and, as a result, was well attended. **NEW YORK PRESS**, a large circulation paper distributed in NYC did a story on the show before the opening. The exhibit received a special listing in **THE VILLAGE VOICE** as a "Voice Choice" for the week.

The interest in the show was such that it was extended from 3 weeks to 5 weeks, and the local paper **DOWNTOWN**, widely distributed in downtown Manhattan, did a special feature on the show and closing party (it was the front page, lead article—in fact, it was the whole front page, with 4 pages from the catalog printed). **SCREW** magazine also devoted a full page to the exhibit and closing party. "Midnight Blue" produced a documentary on the show. Matty Jankowski of Circle Arts in Brooklyn also produced a video documentary on the show that is being distributed throughout Europe. The zine world also received official sanction from the mainstream art world when the show was awarded a grant from Artist Space, a non-profit museum in New York.

There was also a lengthy article about the opening in the **BROOKLYN PHOENIX** and just this week there was a full page review of the show in **THE VILLAGE VOICE** (and it was a real rave, too!), Peter Lamborn Wilson, one of the editors for the mighty zine **SEMIOTEXT(E)** devoted most of one of his bi-monthly radio shows on the New York station WBAI to reviewing the exhibition and many of the zines on display. WFMU, a college station (and the hippest around) also took time to review the opening during one of its music shows.

Many people are interested in remounting the exhibit—having it travel to Europe or Russia—as well as touring through the U.S. in one form or another, We feel that our location in New York, the art capital (yes, unfortunately, still...) has helped to focus much deserved attention to this growing and exciting form of alternative art.

Well over 200 individual publishers participated, easily representing 2000 or more individual artists. There were at least 1000 individual zines exhibited in the floor-to-ceiling style installation that served as part gallery, part reading room. The mass of material exhibited was staggering compared with a typical gallery exhibition, and the look and feel to the space was quite unique.

As the show's organizers, Steve and I are committed to sending the catalog of the show free to everyone included in its forty pages, But this is only a fraction of the total number of people who were included in the actual installation. It may take some time but we will try to send a press package of stuff that's appeared about the show to the other hundreds of participants, We hope next year there will be more money for a bigger catalog and a budget for sending free copies to everyone in the show.

Thanks to everyone who sent in material. Literally, it couldn't have happened without you. We will be compiling a mailing list now and hope to contact you next fall when the exhibit will be remounted here again. We're looking hard for a space in Manhattan to host next year's event. Thanks again,

Scott Cunningham
Steve Cerio

★★★★★

Please advise your readers that the deadline has passed for inclusion in my book, **HUMOR AND CARTOON MARKETS**. *That* is why I have not returned questionnaires to all those who requested them (can't *believe* that 90% of the requests we made minus a SASE!)

Nevertheless, all requests *have* been filed and since the book will be updated and published on a yearly basis, interested parties will receive a questionnaire for the 1991 edition during the summer of 1990.

Bob Staake

★★★★★

While Garry DeYoung represents a strong example of one means of dealing with governmental injustice, his article in FF33 is highly misleading where he states, "The person who hit you with the ball bat is the Defendant and no matter how wealthy he may be, the Court will provide him with a lawyer and full legal representation." It is wholly inaccurate that a wealthy person gets free representation. In fact, prior to appointing counsel, the courts require the defendant to fill out a financial statement and affidavit of poverty. If the defendant does so, and is later found out to have lied in the affidavit, he will be further prosecuted and charged for all the court expenses incurred by him in his defense. Another major point of error in Garry's description is his statement that the defendant will be provided with "full legal representation". The Supreme Court rulings on indigent legal representation do not in any manner guarantee the best legal aid, merely adequate. "Minimally adequate legal representation" is the exact language used by the courts. Please note the "minimal" part.

Avi Naftel

★★★★★

I am thoroughly enjoying and making use of **FACTSHEET FIVE!** Am sharing it with others here. I haven't run into anyone who knew of it, but I will work on changing that.

I also deeply appreciate PJ Bellomo's review of the Senya books (#32 p.67).

I only regret that there is no mention of the Caribbean, and this being a US colony, the address looks like just any ole state—like maybe Virginia. I wonder if it could be made clear that VI is the Virgin Islands. Senya spent his last 6 years here on St. Croix, his first 20 on Trinidad.

Marty Campbell

★★★★★

Ace Backwords continues to be my favorite cartoonist. "Sexley's Believe it or Nuts!" in the last issue was a riot and he seems to be poking heavy fun at his own ideology. What a guy! Or should I say, "What a person!"?

Mark Kissinger

★★★★★

It would be kind of you to announce to your readership that if they send us $2 cash, a blank cassette tape, and a letter describing themselves briefly, we will make up a song about them, record it on the tape, and send it back to them. Also, please do not expect top-notch recording, but we promise that it will be at least as intelligible as your average Daniel Johnston record.

Aaron & Tasha
44 E. Hamilton
Oberlin, OH 44074

★★★★★

Anyone who has enjoyed the work of Joe E. in these and other pages may be interested to know that I'll be publishing a regular book of his work beginning this very month (unfortunately to be completed after the FS5 deadline, however). The first issue features a story on Native American initiation rites, Joe's account of driving home a very confused Mark Mothersbaugh (Devo), and I think a horror vignette too. Any and all advance orders ($2.50) would be appreciated.

E. Jordan Bojar
Brave New Words
PO Box 20421
Providence, RI 02920

★★★★★

In reply to Greg Evason's letter in #33, I've gone through my records for last year, and I find that out of 11 transactions involving cash or money orders, I haven't been stiffed once. In fact, one zine that had gone under returned $4 cash at their own expense. However, it should be noted that I probably deal with the more mainstream publications in your listings. I assume that one is less likely to get burned by something like **THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY** than something with a title like **FUCK OFF AND DIE QUARTERLY.** There are undoubtedly some real assholes out there, but most of my dealings with the small press have been friendly and professional. I'm interested in what other readers might have experienced on this subject.

Jon F. Glade

★★★★★

Well, somebody has to reply to Ace Backwords, and I suppose it might as well be me (sigh).

Re an argument about females on the cover of **FACTSHEET FIVE**, Ace Backwords says: "Men cannot have sex unless aroused by the sight of the woman, while the woman can have sex, aroused or not." Pornography is "an essential" in "assuring the perpetuation of the human species".

1) It's not true that an unaroused woman can "have sex" and an unaroused man can't. "Having sex" with an unaroused woman is called rape, and is punishable by a jail sentence. Okay, Ace may say, it is possible to "rape" an unaroused woman and not an unaroused man. This is also not true. Anal rape of males is quite common (often perpetuated by heterosexual men seeking dominance of another, especially in jails, as Ace will find out when he's

sentenced for having sex with unaroused women). It's no use him whinging that the anus isn't a sex organ. Neither is the unaroused vagina—both are just convenient holes. Anal rape of males often leads to orgasm (due to pressure on the prostate gland) but vaginal rape of females rarely leads to orgasm.

2) Ace's "proof" that women can have sex unaroused and men can't is a cartoon of a man reading a tit-mag to get hot, while the woman in bed with him declares she isn't interested. In non-cartoon language, a man is reading pornography in order to become sufficiently aroused to rape a woman who would otherwise be safe. Hey, I thought you liberal apologists said that pornography doesn't cause rape? Get together and agree on a story, guys.

3) Ace seems to think that the race will die out if men can't look at pictures of naked women. This betrays his low estimation of men's (not to mention nature's) ingenuity. Blind men get aroused; a Victorian man, living in a land where even the legs of the tables were decently covered, often got 12 children from his wife; Arabs and other Moslem peoples seem to reproduce perfectly well in a society where a male never, ever sees a female over the age of about 8, except his wife, unless they are covered from head to foot and accompanied by a chaperone. This is because men are aroused on the spot, as it were, by the smell, touch, and also sight, of the woman they are currently with (and the woman, believe it or not, is aroused by him). Otherwise the species would have dies out long before it discovered **PLAYBOY**, Ace baby! If your cartoon man can't make it without pictures and the cartoon woman isn't interested when he's got it up, I suggest that's their problem, not a massive worldwide, historylong failing of the human race.

4) Assuming, for the sake of argument, that women don't bother with sexual arousal (presumably they lie back and think of England, as Victorian women and Ace's cartoon women were enjoined to do), and that men find women so repulsive that the only way they can get an erection and perpetuate the species is to read pornography (what a noble sacrifice men make for the sake of us silly women!), it still doesn't explain why we should have more women than men on the cover of **FACTSHEET FIVE**.

5) er, that's it.

Lyle Hopwood
(Female. I know you Yanks can't tell by the name.)

★★★★★

Sorry it has taken me so long to reply to your letter. Thank you for writing me. You said that you had received a couple of complaints from people who had ordered stuff from me and had not gotten it.

Here's the situation: a couple of months ago, I moved to a new place. The move turned out to be a nightmare...stuff lost, furniture damaged beyond repair...you get the idea. Anyway, my primitive filing system got completely trashed in the *chaos* which ensued. It has taken me weeks of shuffling through six years worth of accumulated mail to figure out what has been answered and what hasn't. Its funny—I'm usually such a compulsively organized person.

Anyhow, I am now, as far as I can make out, completely caught up. I feel pretty bad about this...I know how irritating it can be to wait around for somebody to get her/his shit together, especially if there's money involved.

I would like anyone who is still waiting for anything to drop me a line. I promise to respond quickly, I would also like to apologize for any hurt feelings, It was certainly not my intent to create hassles.

One possible problem might be the move. I have already had trouble getting my mail forwarded from my old place, and the Jehovah's Witness now living there is not being too cooperative about saving *that weird stuff* for me. Here's my new address:

Edgar "Bolt" Upright
107-H W. Main St.
Carrboro, NC 27510

★★★★★

I am interested in starting a food APA, with recipe sharing, food art, commentary, criticism, etc.

Chef Jeff
2429 Arkansas
Lawrence, KS 66046

★★★★★

New zine looking for articles to advance/expand the idea of Rimbaud's "dérèglement de tous les sens" (arriving at the unknown by disordering all the senses. Looking for new theories and modern deviations of the above, information on devices for the modification of brainwaves, reviews of modern literature and experimental music, interviews of cutting-edge individuals, as well as personal experience pieces, and what your rights are when dealing with arrogant police officers, and how to pick up a rich, beautiful girlfriend.

Fresh A
c/o Ordure
8 Millbrook Rd.
Kingston nh
03848

★★★★★

I am a prisoner trying to fight the censorship policies here, since mere nudist materials are forbidden. I am also looking for people who share the same beliefs as those expressed in "Uncommon desires" and **ANARCHY #19**. Photos welcome. Write to:

Harold Williams
Box B 080806-3
Anamosa, IA 52205

★★★★★

I wish to start an APA devoted to cassette culture and related subjects. I will call it **TZARA BULLET**. Anyone should write...also am accepting mail art on the subject of **TRISTAN TZARA** for it. It will come out as soon as interest peaks..

Michael Behaviour
PO Box 5833
Winter Park, FL 32793-5833

★★★★★

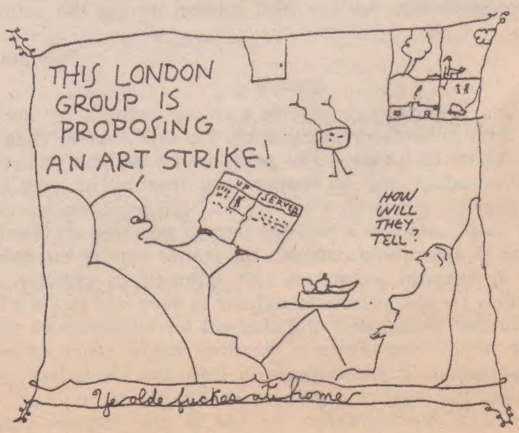
Although I will continue to carry highway patrol accident photos as a category, they will not appear in any orders to people in the near future because my entire collection disappeared. So to those who ordered them and received substitutions, my apologies. If anyone is in possession of the aforementioned and highly-prized items and would be interested in a trade for other equally gross stuff please contact me at Diabolos Graphics Exchange, PO Box 4527, Portland, OR 97208.

Scary Gary

★★★★★

I read the letter column in the last issue of FF5. Mr. Gunderloy defended himself nicely and then hung Ace Backwords out to dry. Ace had a viable point in that there are serious biological differences in men and women. While social conditioning shapes attitudes and behavior, the genetic hardwired differences remain in place. As to whether a cover or image is sexist or not, I don't know. I do know that subjective interpretation is how an answer can be arrived at. Some people will be offended at any depiction of women as Mr. Gunderloy pointed out. On the other hand I perceive an assault on male heterosexuality. I will not apologize for being male and having a sex drive and the object of that drive being women. No, the cover in question did not inflame my lust and cause the rape of some innocent woman, though it may be all that Ted Bundy would have needed. Some serious problems exist in our American society concerning issues for women. Rape, domestic violence, abortion rights, just to name a few. An attempt to influence the selection of covers is an attempt at censorship. If the objection to the cover had been made by someone with the Christian Far Right, you would all still be laughing. I still am.

DTD


THIS LONDON GROUP IS PROPOSING AN ART STRIKE!
UP
SERVED
HOW WILL THEY TELL?
Ye olde fuckers at home

1990 P.A.N.A.L. NETWORKING DIRECTORY

We welcome all of you to join us in the wonderful world of networking by listing your interests, services, products, publications, business, organization, group, message, or advertisement in the 1990 P.A.N.A.L. Networking Directory. Whatever your individualized interests may be, there is a place for it in P.N.D. Unlike many directories that list only major businesses, groups, or organizations, P.N.D. provides listings for the individual needs and interests. Listings could range from prisoners offering a service or seeking specialized services to major organizations wanting to network with others. There is a place for everyone in P.N.D. Listing forms for the 1990 edition of P.N.D. must be received by June 30, 1990. No listing is refused or rejected.

LISTING NAME: ______________________

ADDRESS: ______________________

PHONE: ______________________

NOTE: Be sure to list info above, good for a one year period, since listing cannot be changed.

CHECK BOX (S) BELOW - COMBINING - TO BEST DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF LISTING.

( )Business
( )Publisher
( )Publication
( )Networking
( )Pen-Pal
( )Services
( )Individual
( )Prisoner
( )Sales
( )Message
( )Advertising
( )Gay/Lesbian
( )Group
( )Coalition
( )Organization
( )Anarchist
( )Writer
( )Directory
( )Hobby
( )Art
( )Music
( )Club
( )Distributor
( )Collective

In 50 words or less, DESCRIBE how you would like your listing of information to appear.

Would you like to be notified when the P.N.D. is printed?
( ) Yes ( ) No

Are you active in prisoner volunteer work or reform?
( ) Yes ( ) No

Have you read or heard about "Behind The Walls"?
( ) Yes ( )No ( ) Interested

( ) Please begin my 1 year subscription to "Behind The Walls" (6 issues)

Name______________________

Address______________________

( ) Prisoner ( ) Non-Prisoner

"Behind The Walls" (BTW)
subscription fees:
Prisoner $5 Non-Prisoner $10
Foreign $15
Sample Copy $2
STAMPS accepted from prisoners.

"Behind The Walls" is a creative publication of art, poetry, articles, and networking information from our forgotten societies - inside and out. See reviews in FACTSHEET FIVE and in many other publications.

P.N.D DIRECTORY FEE

Listing fee for P.N.D. is $5 per listing. We will list your publication FREE if you send us a copy of an issue printing this 81/2x11 form. You will also be listed free if you send us two (2) paid listings with yours.

SEND COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:
5 Star Press
P.O. Box 4167 (PND)
Halfmoon, NY 12065 USA
Checks payable to **5 Star Press**

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDS: All proceeds generated from P.N.D. and "Behind The Walls", as well as all fundraising projects generated by P.A.N.A.L., are utilized to help prisoners in need, the book program for those institutionalized, and to expand our services worldwide.

Pen-Pal and Book Program: Those who wish to correspond with a prisoner, or prisoners wanting to be listed in our program, or who are in need of reading material should contact: G. Stress, Southeast Operations, P.O. BOX 1153, Russellville, AL 35653.

Please reprint and distribute this form. Listings must be sent on this form or a copy of this form.

PND NO:
(office use)

Attention Writers Artists Photographers and Small Press Editors

WIN $50 CASH BONUS GRANT FROM GUIDELINES

Guidelines Magazine offers:

- Advice from both big press and small press editors to help you market your work more professionally and avoid needless rejection slips
- Access to *Guidelines Service* placing hundreds of writer's guidelines at your fingertips saving you both time and money
  —updated list of participating publications in every issue along with complete Market Barometer Codes indicating which markets have an immediate need for work, which markets are closed, backlogged, or folded.
- Editor and Writer Surveys conducted annually. Results of the 1989 Surveys to be published soon. Don't miss it!
- Each issue contains a different full-page form from Sue Vider's workbook, THE WRITE FORM

THERE'S MORE

- Essays and articles by editors, writers, publishers, distributors
- Valuable up-to-date market information
- Manuscript exchange column at no charge to subscribers
- Reviews of magazines written from the marketing perspective (content, slant, pay, and description of publication)
- Free research help column for writers

GUIDELINES
GUIDELINES MAGAZINE
SEPTEMBER
Guidelines versus Sample Copies
Information versus Profit
A Look at an Extant Nineteenth Century Publication
Emily Dickinson: The Real Story
1989 Writer's Survey
8½'' x 7''
quarterly
POT OF GOLD

Art Illustration by R. Dahlstrom

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

ONLY $11.95
per year

FREE GIFT when you subscribe NOW

Each new subscriber who includes an SASE with subscription check will receive a free Magazine Analysis Chart and the latest list of publications participating in *Guidelines Service* (includes Market Barometer Codes) as well as the current issue of Guidelines Newsletter.

PLUS

We keep subscribers informed of market news and market information in *Guidelines Newsletter*, an interim report published between issues of *Guidelines Magazine.*

If your subscription is the 1001st subscription check we process (computer keeps tabs, renewals count as a new sub), you will receive a $50.00 Cash Grant from *Guidelines Magazine* to buy postage, paper, whatever you need. No strings attached. Winner's reaction will be published.

Start receiving the quarterly issues of *Guidelines Magazine* now!

Each new subscriber who includes an SASE with subscription check will receive a free Magazine Analysis Chart and the latest list of publications participating in *Guidelines Service* (includes Market Barometer Codes) as well as the current issue of Guidelines Newsletter.

☐ YES, I want to subscribe to Guidelines. Let me know if I'm the winner of the $50 Grant.

NAME ____________________

ADDRESS ____________________

CITY ____________________

STATE ____________________ Zip __________

Mail check for $11.95 payable to: Guidelines Box 608 Pittsburg, Missouri 65724

(Offer valid through 6/1/90)

Advertising design by Salaki